

# **Alternate Life**

From the  
Online Sketchbooks of C. M. Kosemen

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This volume contains a multitude of my sketches, published in online “sketchbooks” between March 2013 and March 2019.

Alien creatures, fossil animals, parallel evolution, “spirits” and spirit visions constitute the main themes explored in these sketches. Simple explanations are provided throughout.

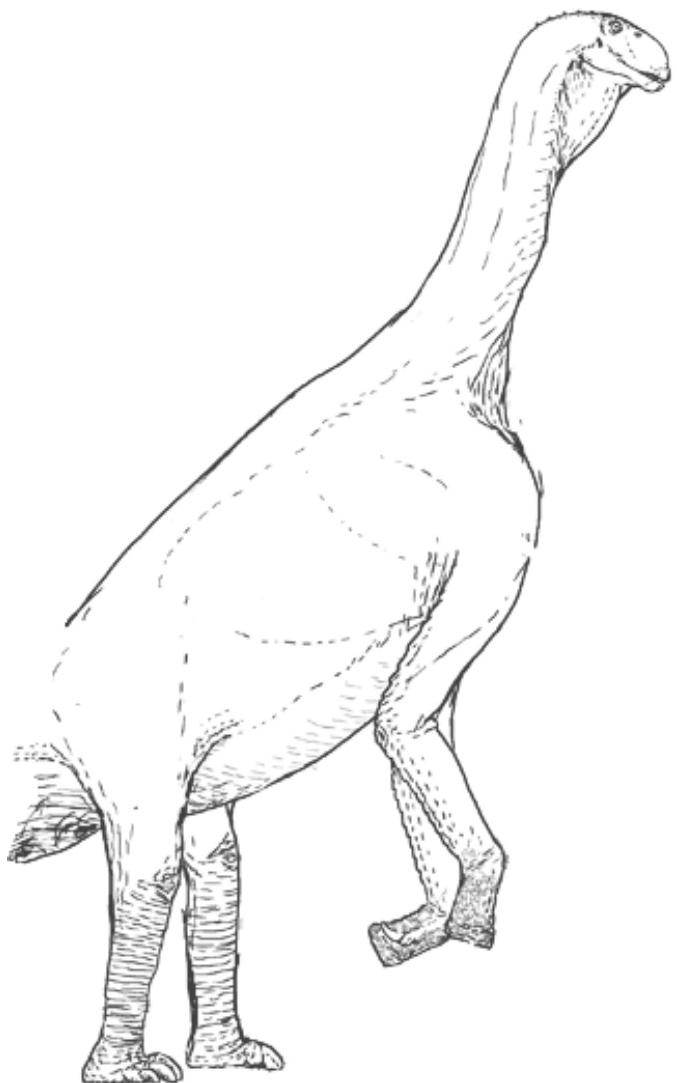
I hope that they inspire you to come up with your own ideas, creatures, worlds and beyond...

C. M. Kosemen

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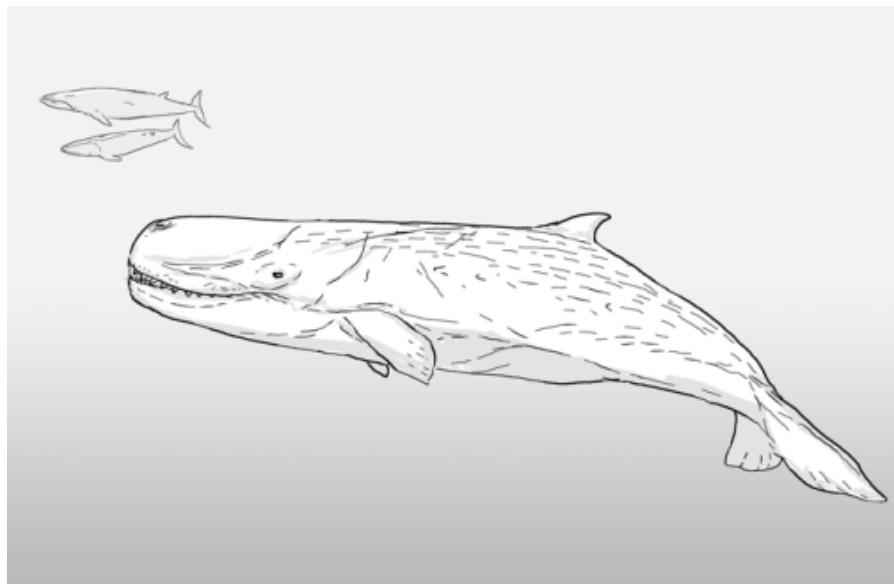
Sketch of the sauropod  
dinosaur *Atlasaurus* rearing  
up to view its surroundings.



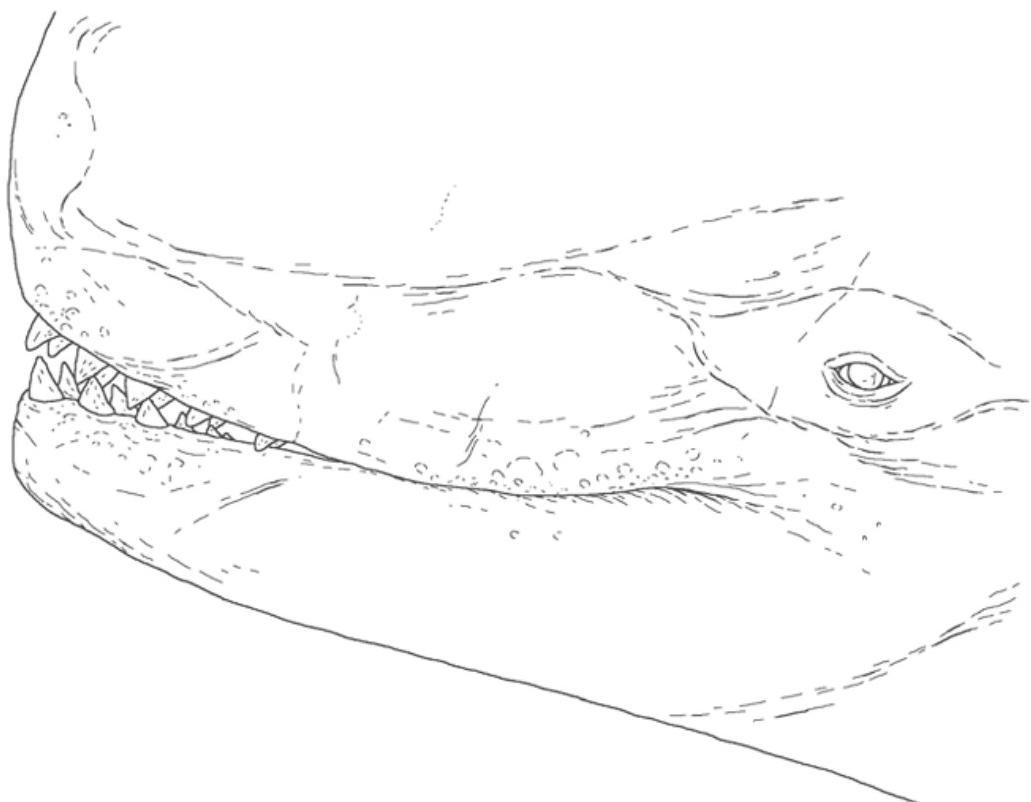
Sketch of the horned dinosaur  
*Arrhinoceratops* in a bipedal  
gait.



Sketch of an intelligent chameleon – prepared for a speculative evolution project in which lizards and associated reptiles became the dominant land animals on Earth.



Sketches of *Livyathan melvillei*, the gigantic predatory sperm-whale that lived 20 million years ago.





Sketch of the “Dover Demon” entity, supposedly seen in Massachusetts in 1977.



Sketch of a purposefully-false reconstructed swan-creature from *All Yesterdays*.



A triad of bird-like demons, which stab people with knives.



Sketches of various demon-creatures.



A sketch of the meat-eating dinosaur *Marshosaurus*.



Sketch of a speculative bird-like quadruped descended from early dinosauromorphs such as *Silesaurus*.

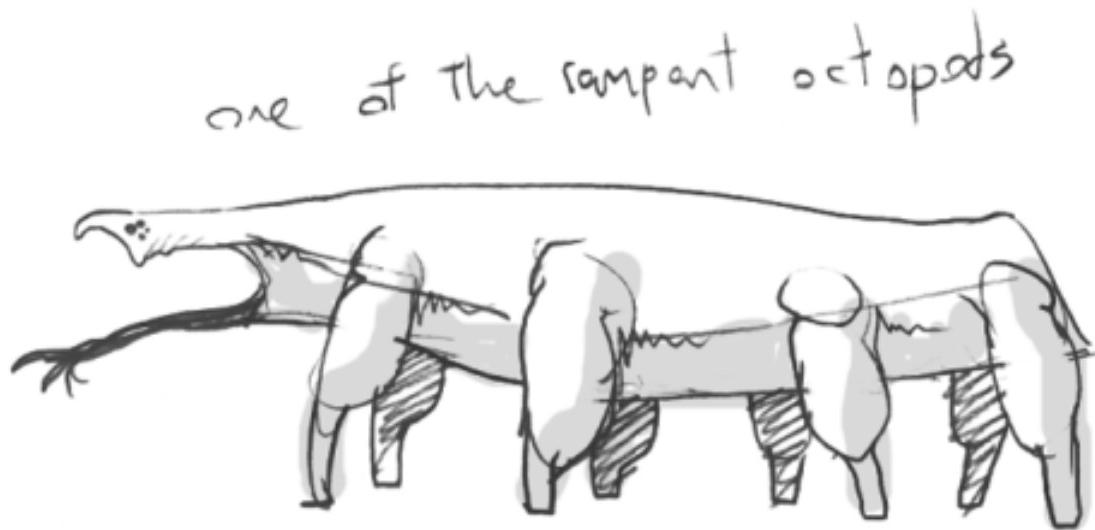


Fat alien creatures with long and delicate fingers.  
These silent beings communicated with intricate  
gestures of their flexible digits and oral appendages.





Sketch of a giant toothed bird that has evolved into a flightless predator. This animal is speculative, but things like it may have existed in the past.



Sketch of an alien creature with eight legs. Its limbs are driven by hydraulic fluids rather than fibrous muscles.



Another sketch of a swan, reconstructed falsely by future palaeontologists that had no understanding of feathers.



Sketch of an erotic scene with a lovecraftian being.



Sketches of two “posthumans” that evolved in a future science-fiction scenario.



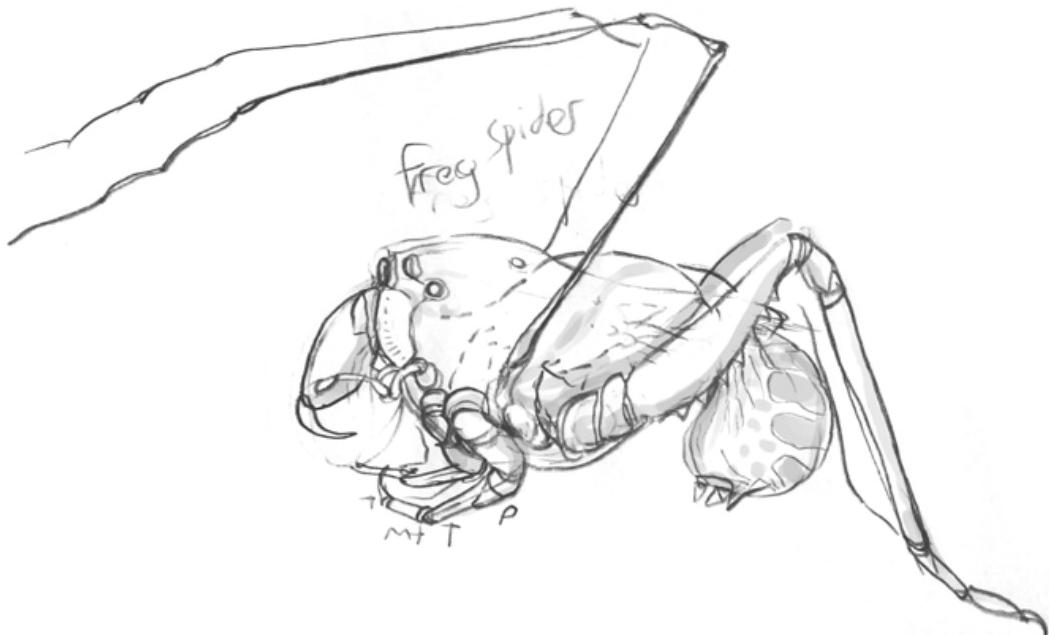
Sketch of an land animal that may have evolved from Mormyrid-type fish, with a sensitive, trunk-like organ growing out of its chin.



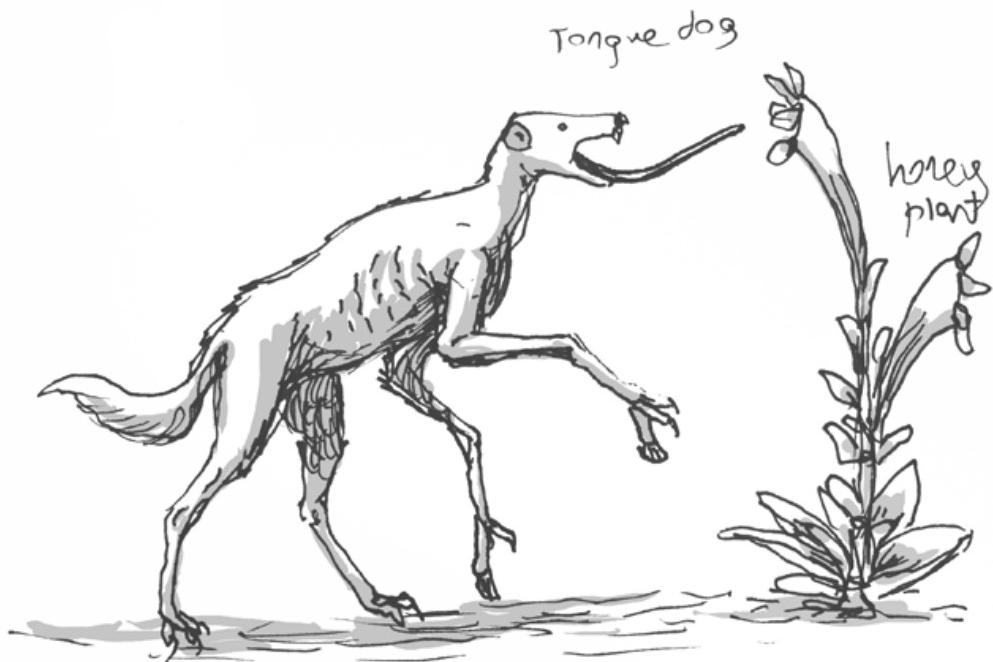
Sketch of a fantastic landscape, featuring hills with eyes.



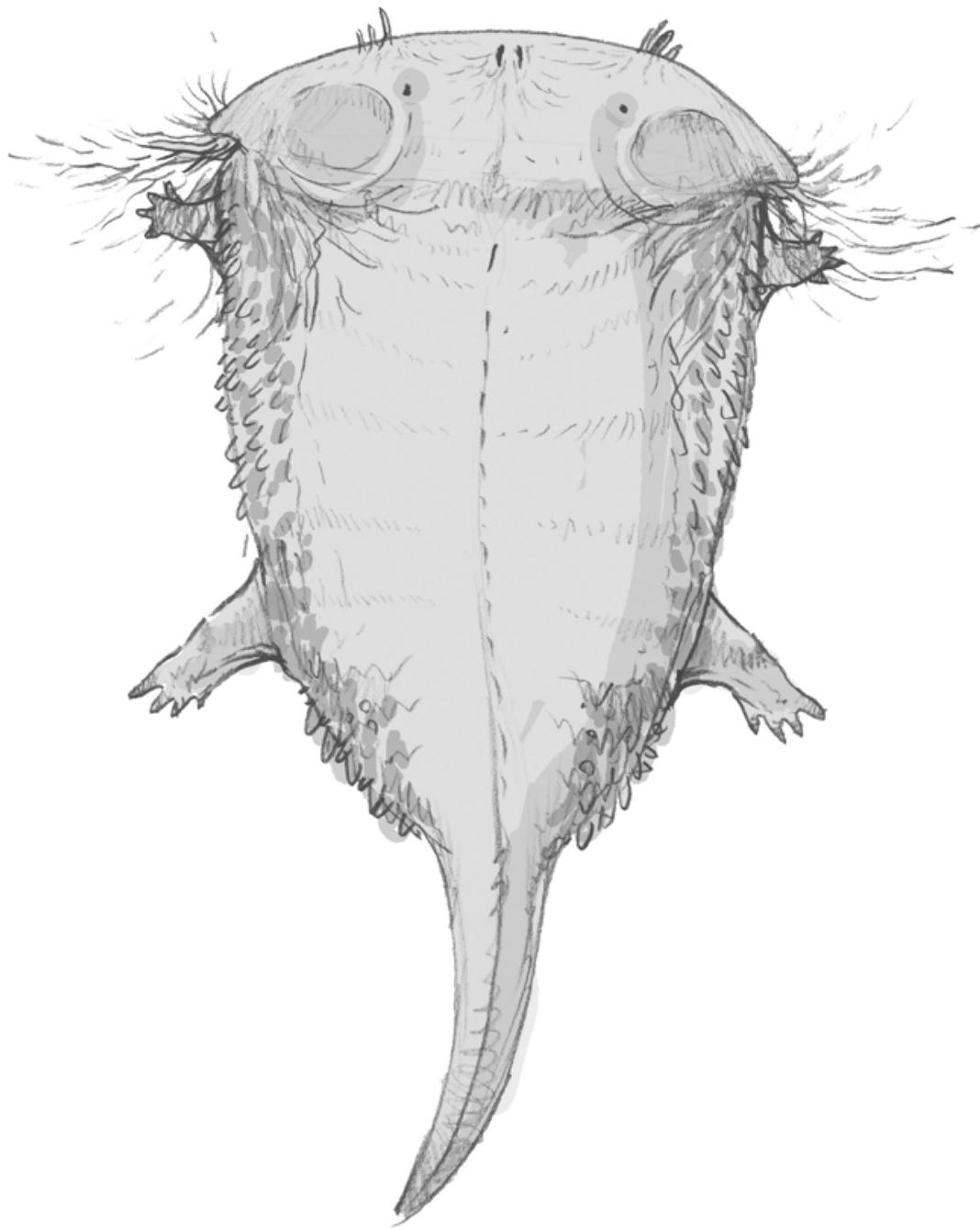
Line art sketch for a friend's album cover.



Sketch of a giant jumping spider the size of a frog.  
Obviously, a work of speculative zoology.



Sketch of a dog-like, nectarivorous mammal from the future.



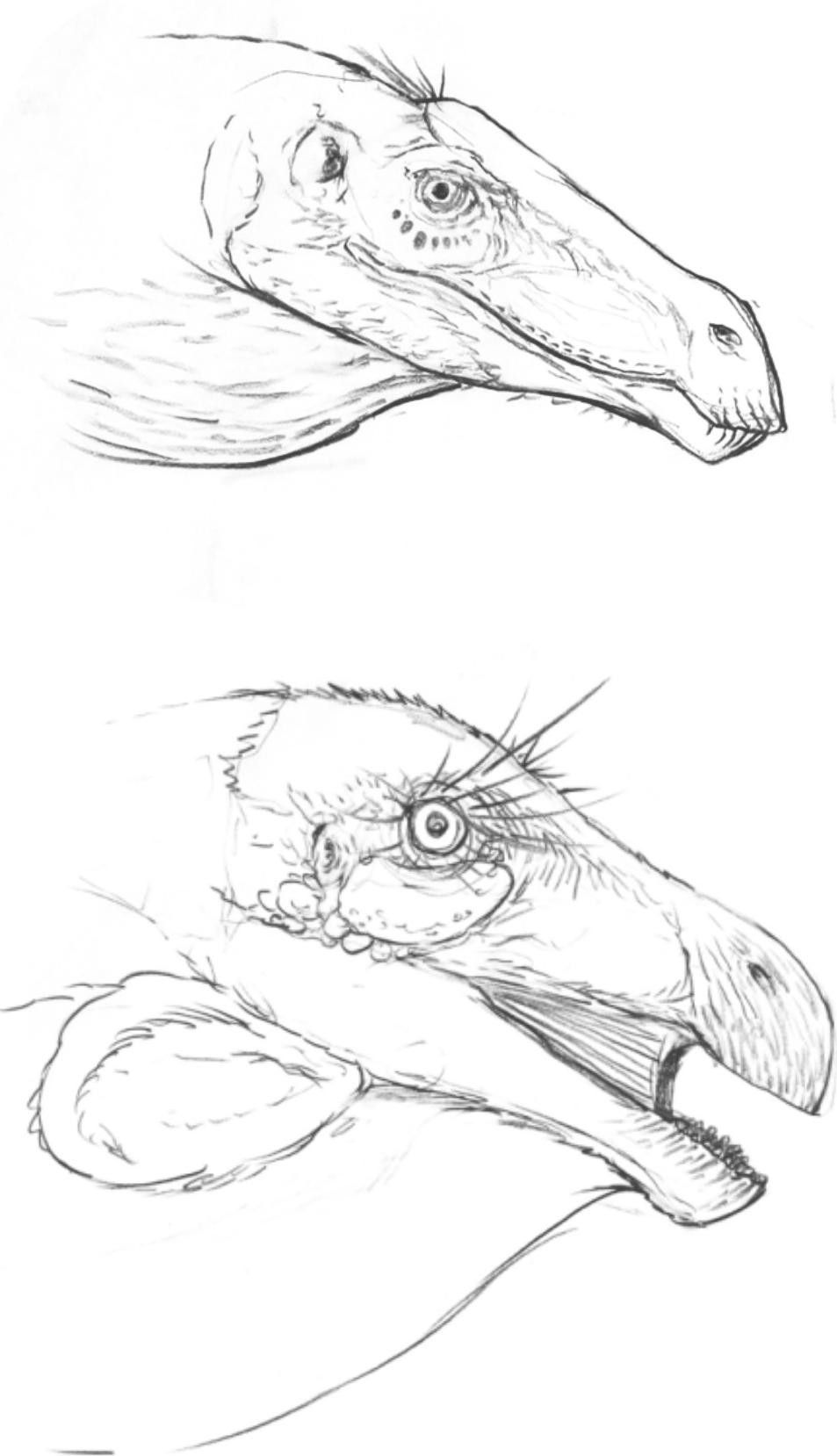
Sketch of a hypothetical, giant flat blind cave amphibian. There is no evidence for animals like this, yet such beings could have conceivably existed in the world's past.



A fanciful animal collage, part of an ex-libris stamp design.



Digital sketch of a compound demon figure.



Two face studies of the enigmatic dinosaur *Therizinosaurus*, drawn one year apart.



A strange amphibian land animal, derived not from bony fish but from sharks.



Sketch of a kangaroo-like alien creature, derived from a completely different line of evolution.



Sketch of two intelligent dinosaurs in an amorous moment.



Sketch of a hypothetical transitional form between megalosaurid dinosaurs and the derived, crocodile-like spinosaurids.



Sketch of worshippers offering their child to a bird-like celestial spirit.



Simple sketch of *Yangchuanosaurus*, a predatory dinosaur. I tried to give it a semi-kangaroo-like, “retro” stance, something which I feel was not implausible if the animal was resting.



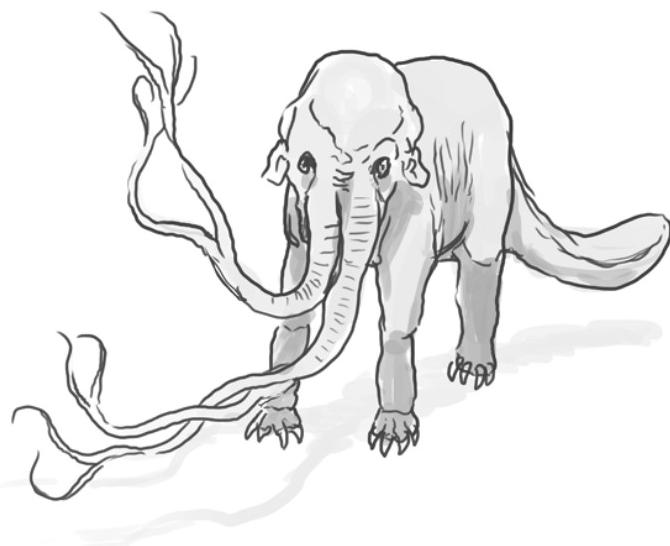
A likeness of Cthulhu.



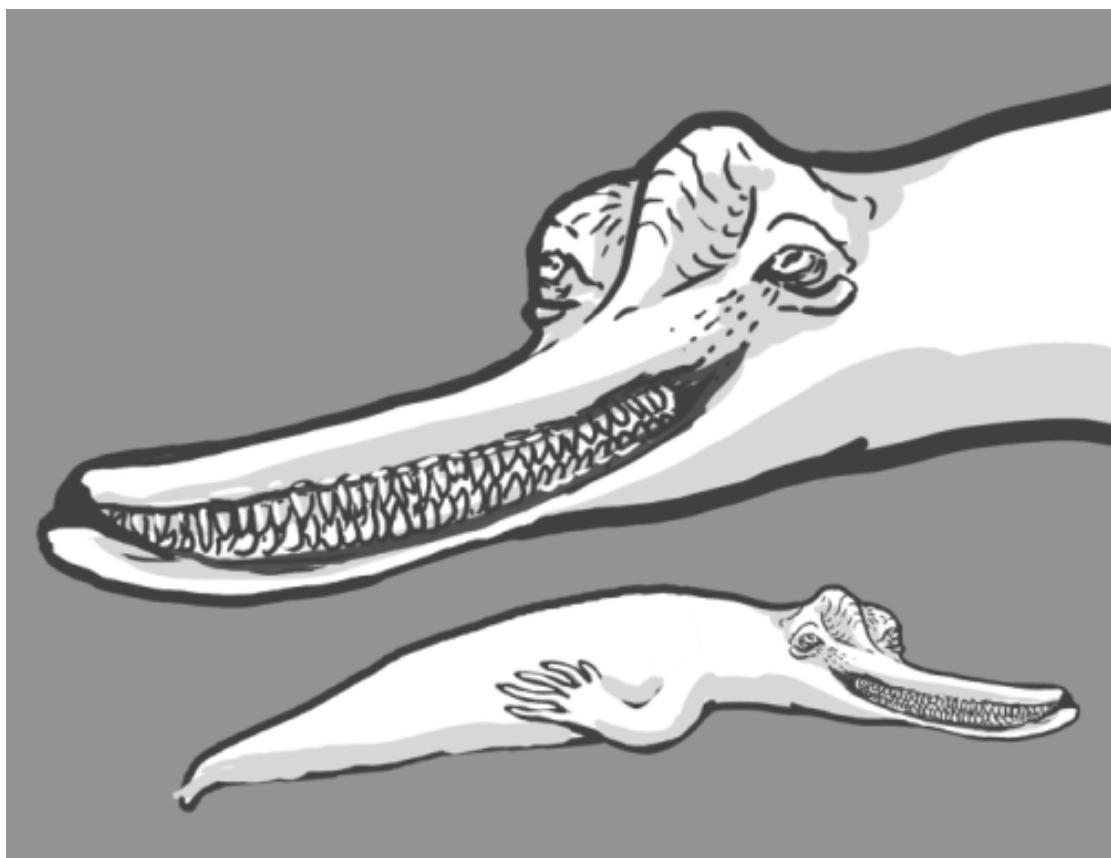
Two sketches of fanciful spirit-creatures.



A study of *Torosaurus*, a large horned dinosaur.



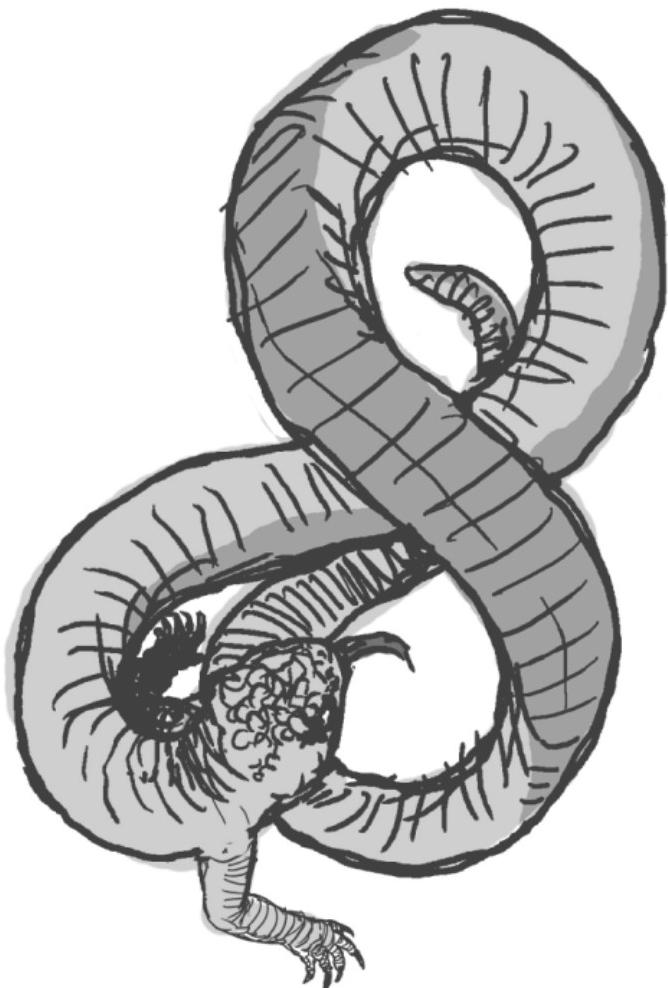
Sketch of a Fithp, one of the intelligent, elephant-like aliens from *Footfall* (1985), Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle's sci-fi alien invasion novel.



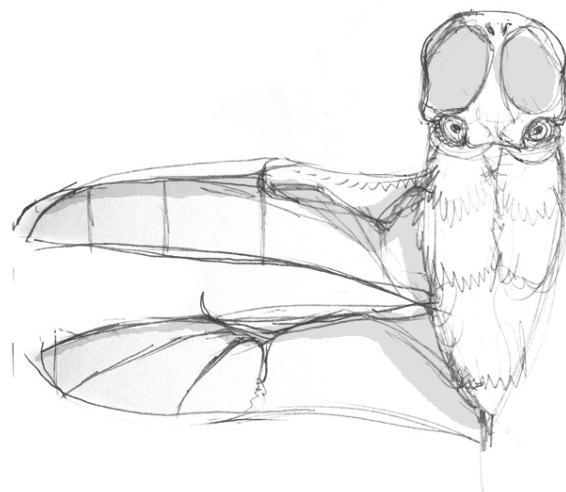
“Shrink wrapped” studies of a false killer whale, *Pseudorca crassidens*, and the Yang Tze River dolphin, *Lipotes vexillifer*, restored without soft tissues and blubber. Sketches like this hint at the mistakes artists may be making when trying to restore dinosaurs as lean, vicious creatures.



Sketch of *LAM*, the grey alien-like entity supposedly contacted by Aleister Crowley in the 1910s. I enjoy the iconography of such things, but I am a firm sceptic when it comes to spiritualism, “demons,” “spirits,” and the like.



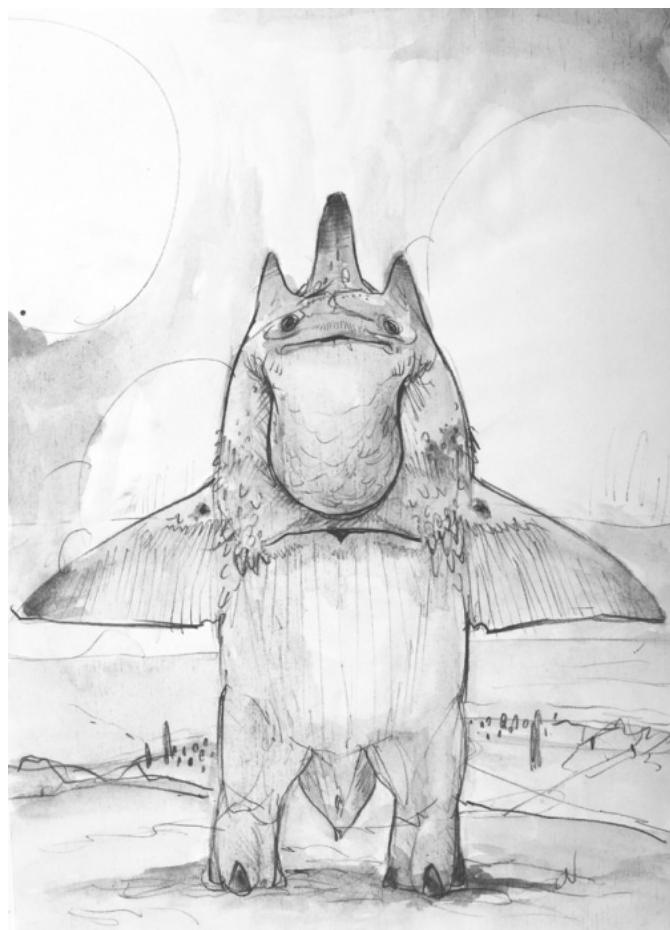
Sketch of the *Tatzelwurm*, a snake-like cryptid animal reported from Alpine Europe.



Sketch of a tiny, hypothetical pterosaur with four wings.



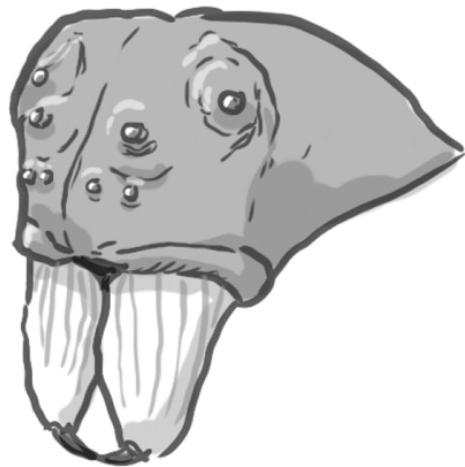
Sketch of the gigantic ornithomimosaur *Deinocheirus* with tail integument and a gular pouch. This sketch was later turned into a painting by the inimitable John Conway.



Sketch of a three-pronged blumbomen, *Triprotong major*, from *Snaiad*, my project about life on an alien planet.



Digital collage of bird, newt and human body parts mixed with stars.



Portrait of a *Pisura* spider.



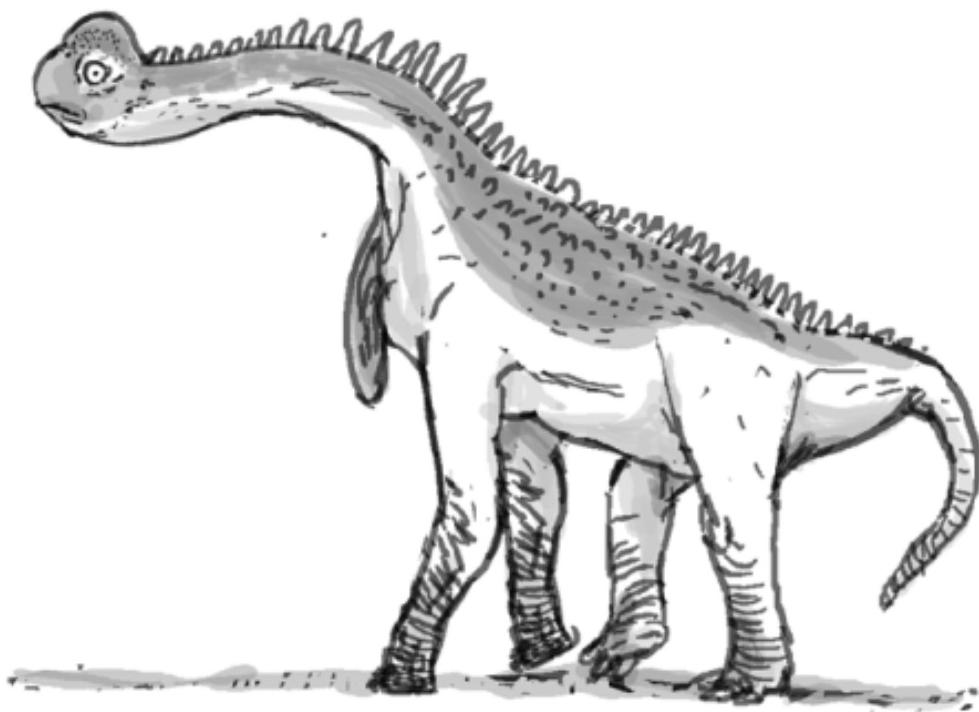
Sketch of an ibis-like demon with two heads.



Sketch of a demon-figure with and without armor.



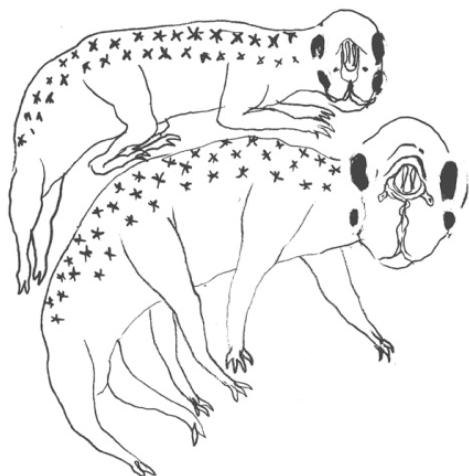
More sketches of frivolous spirit beings.



Sketch of an adolescent brachiosaur dinosaur.



Sketch of a flightless pterosaur of the azhdarchid lineage.



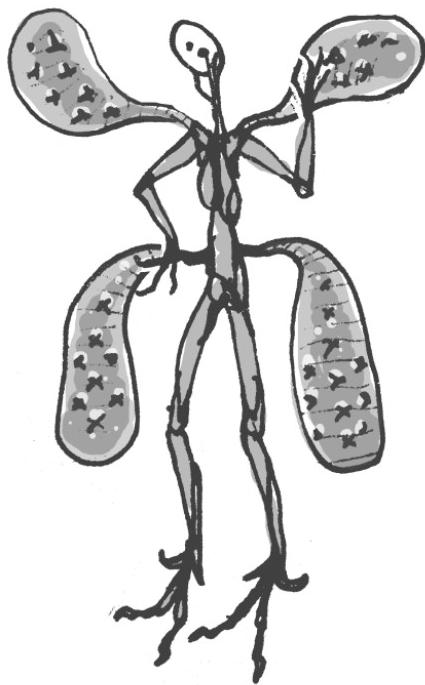
Sketches of various surreal demon figures.



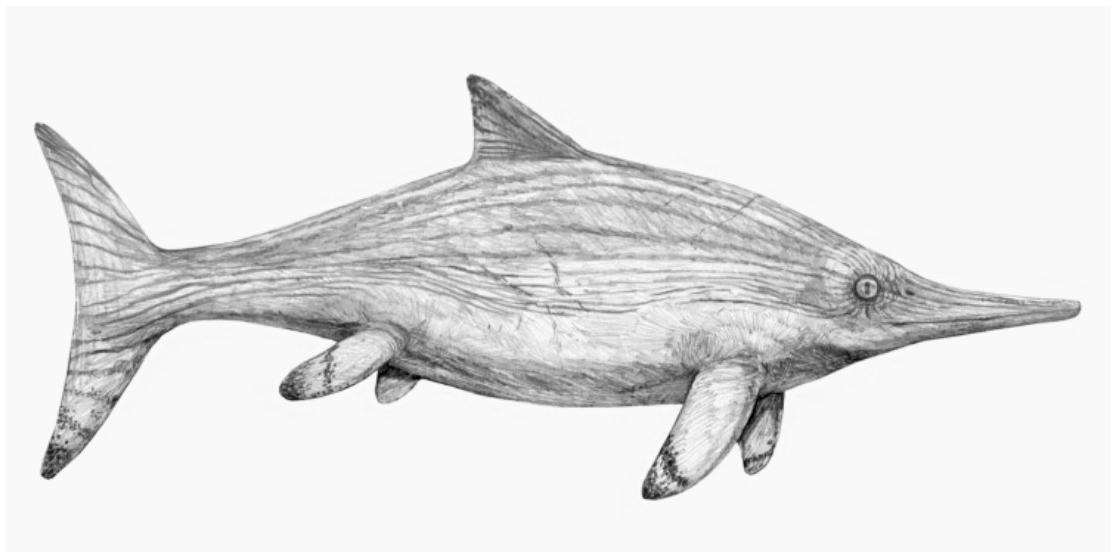
A compilation of succubae and nightmarish “spirit” beings.



Sketch of post-human desert nomads; three-meter-tall cyanocephalous men with bluish-black skin and digitrade feet.



Sketches of various spirits and demons.



Pencil study of the ichthyosaur *Acamptonectes*. I love the vertical, gecko-like iris on this guy, however most researchers believe that ichthyosaurs had more conventional, circular pupils.



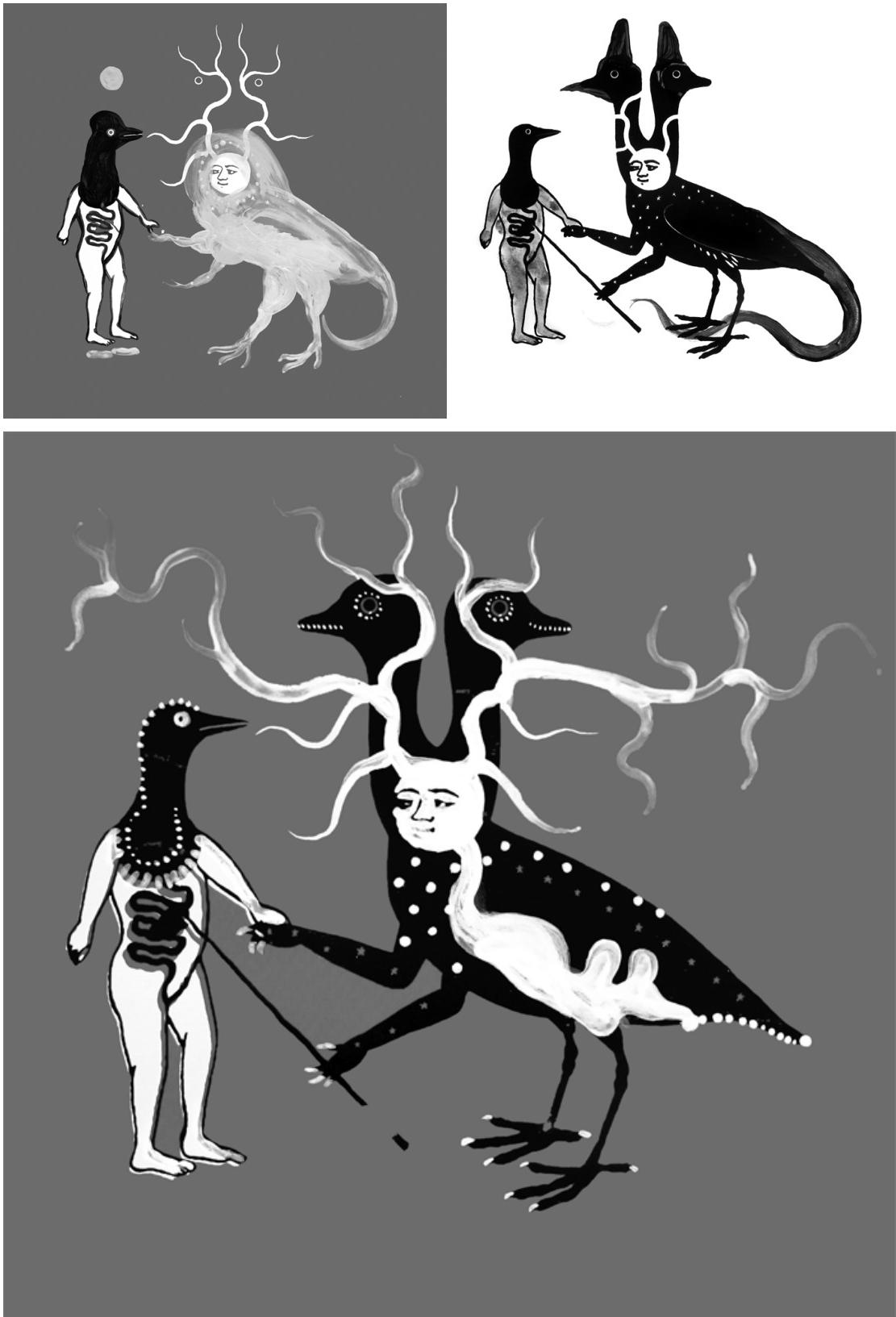
Architectural sketches of a “dream house” built with stone, in a Greek-inspired Aegean-Mediterranean style. It has a small bedroom, a joined kitchen and living space, and a big garden at the back.



Sketches of fanciful spirit creatures.



Silkscreen experiments modified with acrylics, depicting various bird-like spirit creatures.



Silkscreen experiments modified with acrylics, depicting various bird-like spirit creatures.



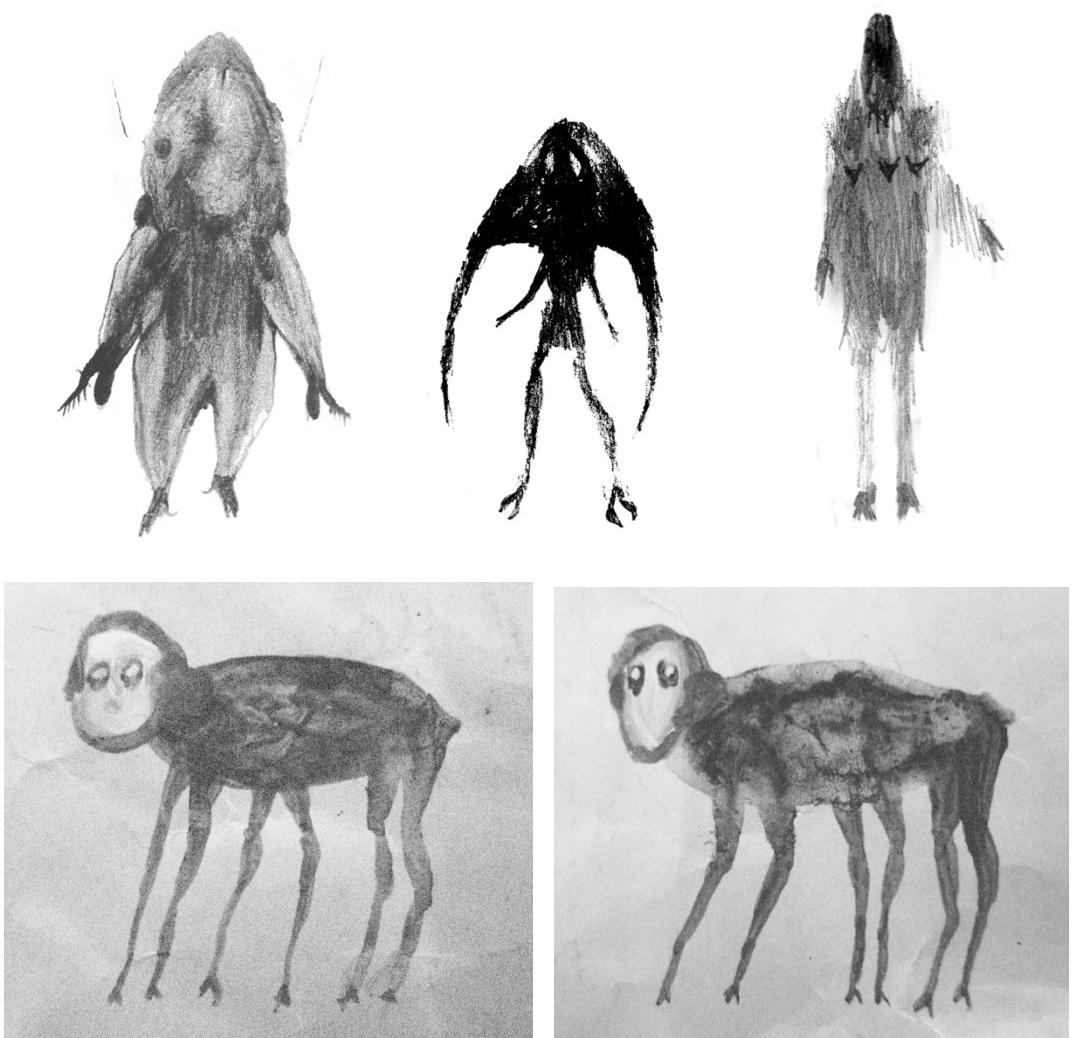
Ink sketches of various fanciful demon-creatures.



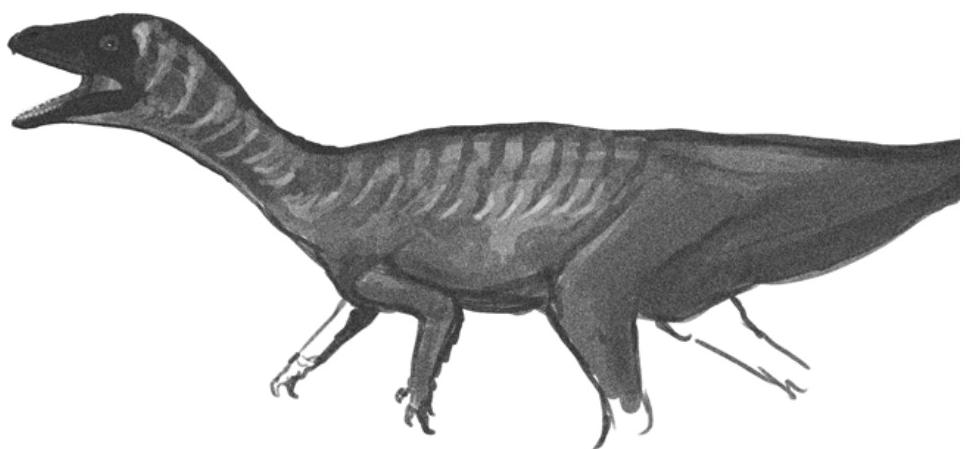
Ink sketches of various fanciful demon-creatures.



Sketch of a benevolent dream-creature.



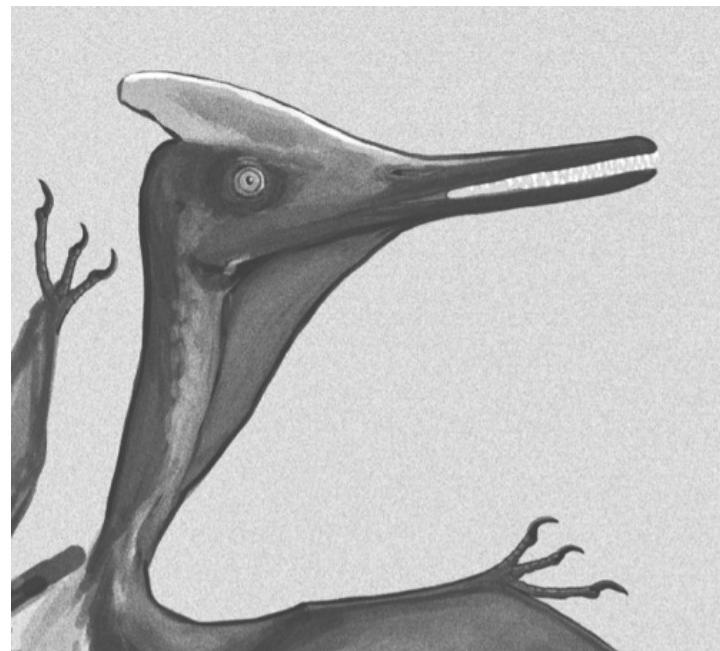
Sketches of various fanciful demon-creatures and human-faced hexapods.



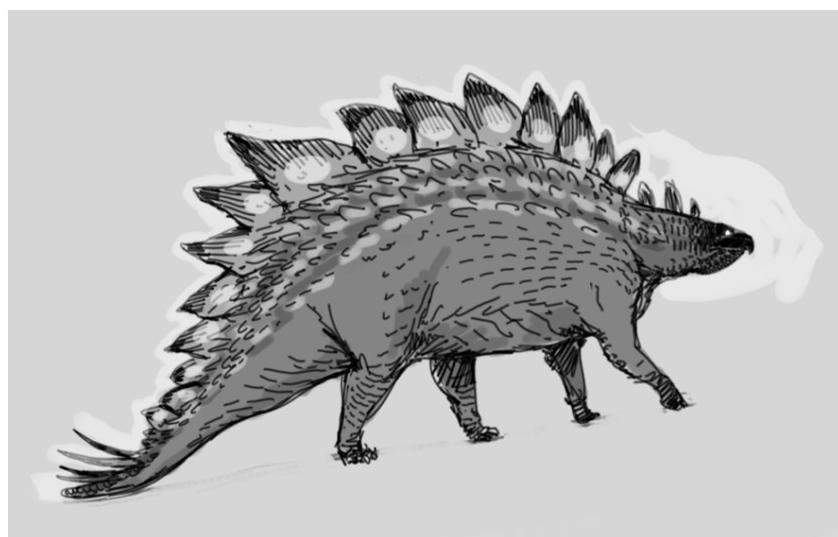
Digital paint sketch of the early dinosaur *Eoraptor*.



Fanciful sketches of snake-women.

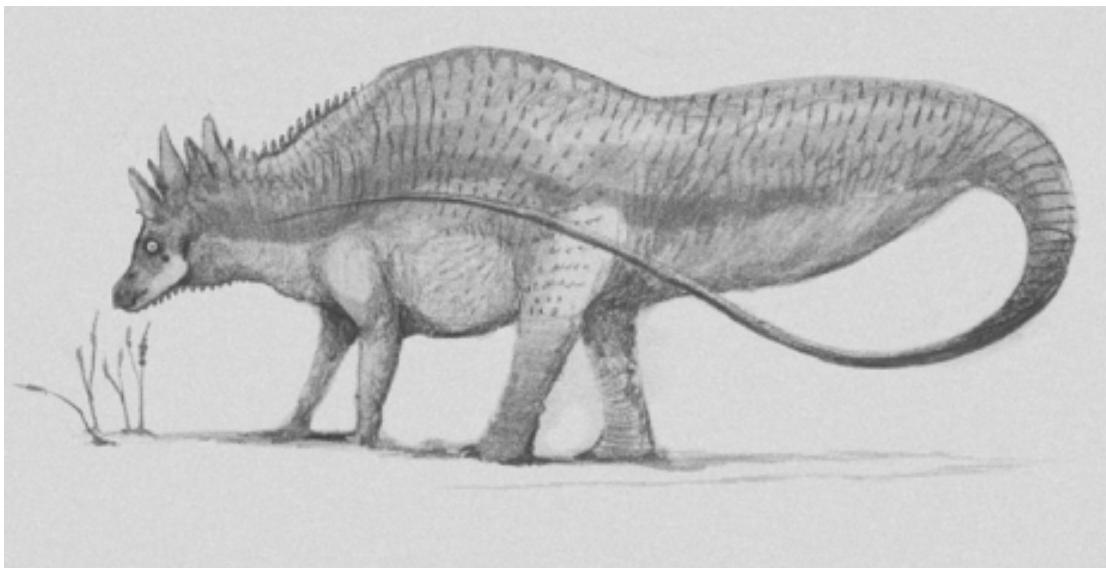


Digital paint sketch of the flying reptile *Pterodactylus*.

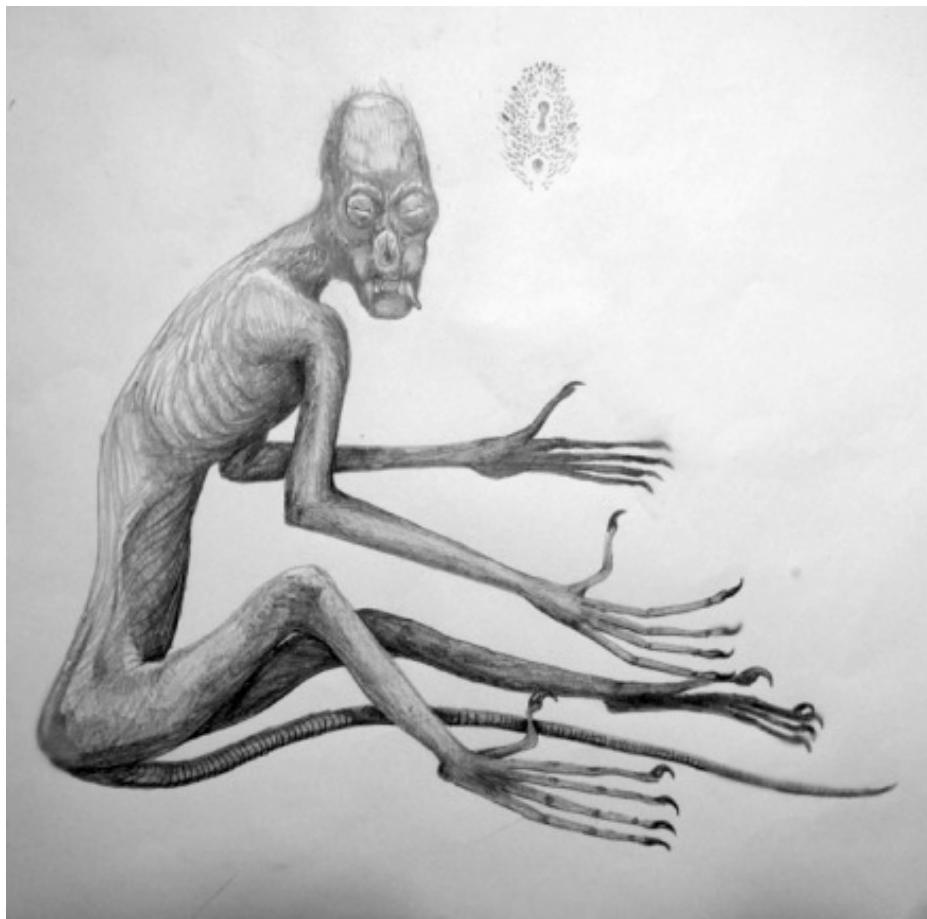


Sketch of the famous plate-backed dinosaur, *Stegosaurus*, pictured here in a retro incarnation reminiscent of 19th-century art. Below, digital sketch of the smart, birdlike dinosaur *Troodon*.

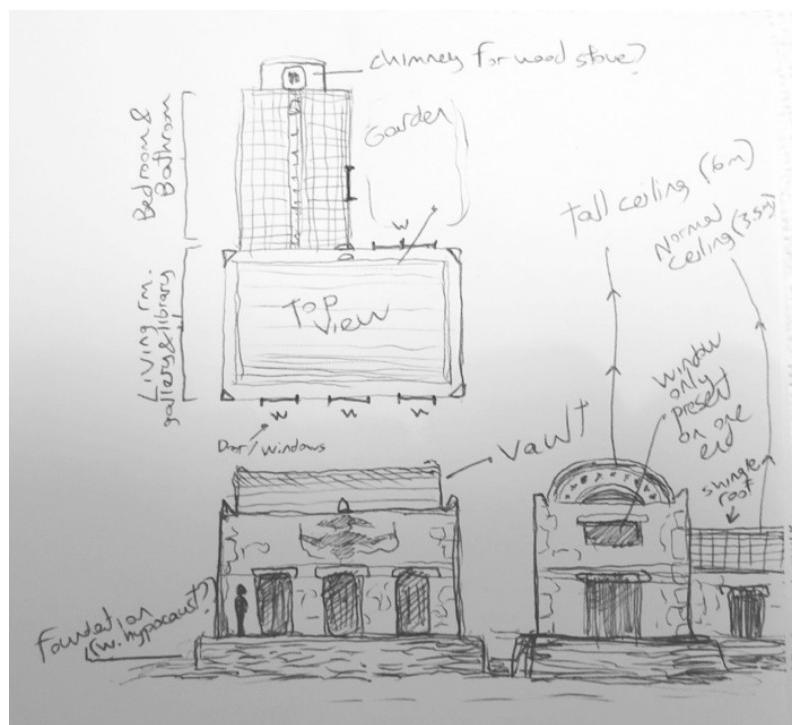




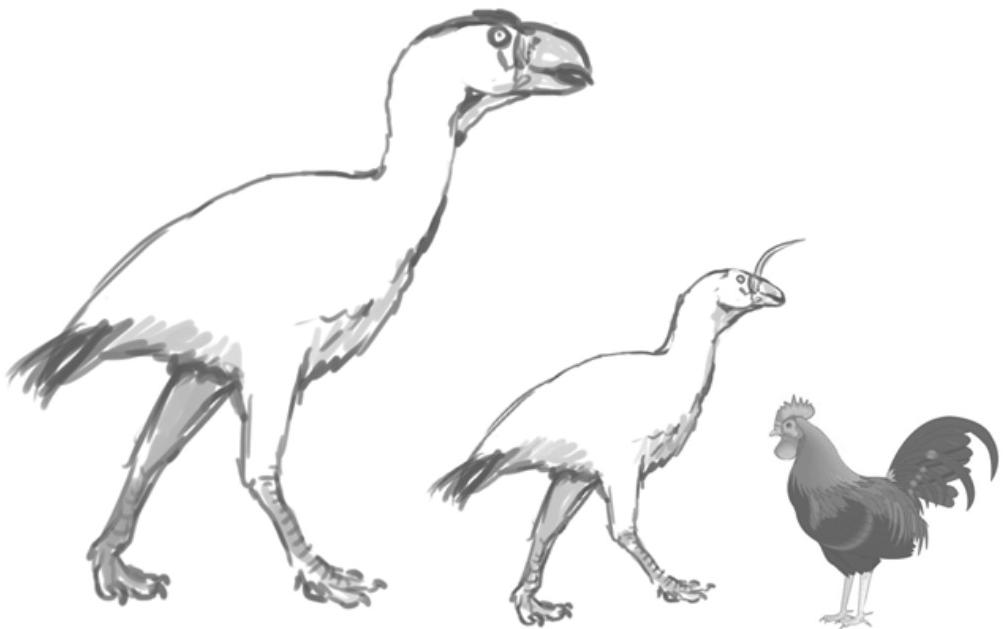
Sketches of speculative sauropod dinosaurs.



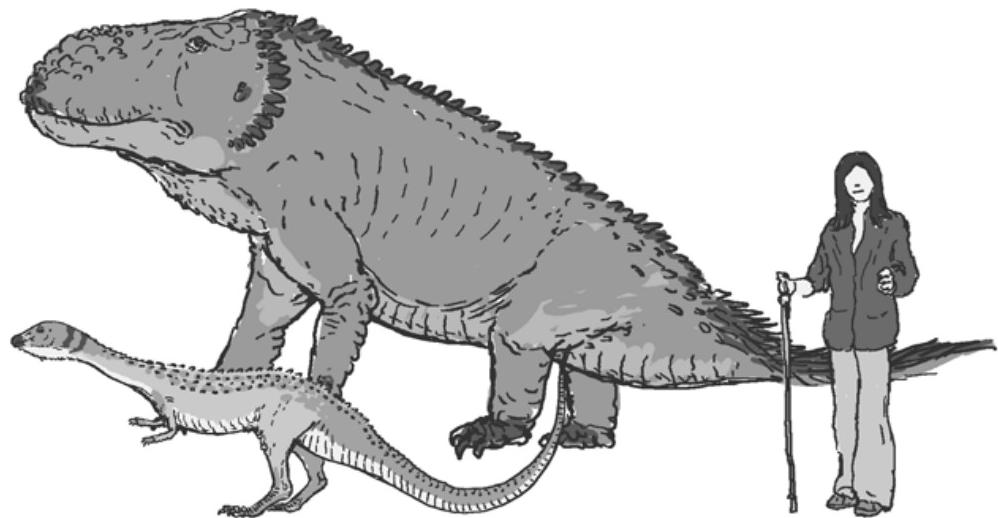
A spider monkey drawn in the same way some dinosaurs are mistakenly restored as lean, mean killing machines.



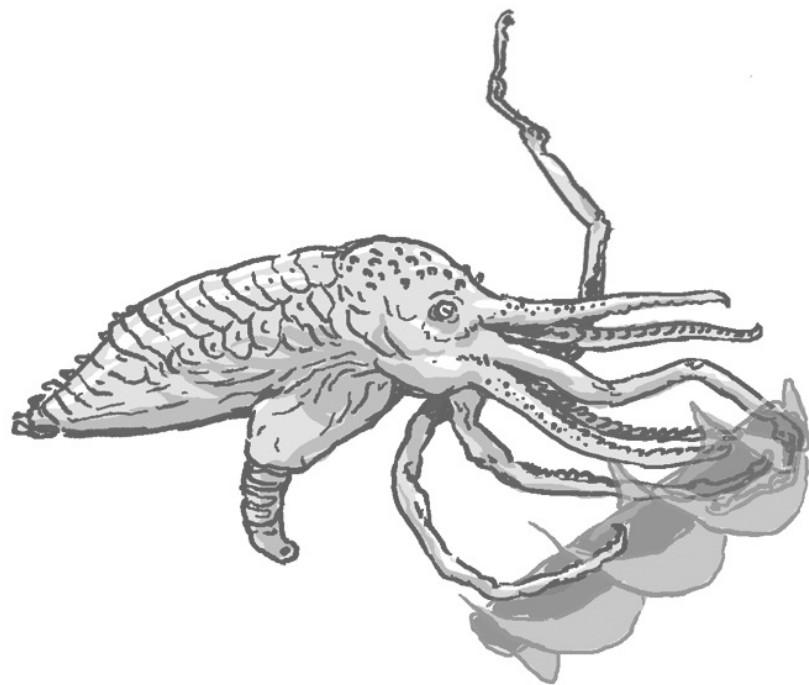
Architectural sketch of a dream house with a bedroom and a big library/gallery/living room. Perhaps I'll get to build it one day.



Sketch of hypothetical big, flightless birds with a rooster for scale.



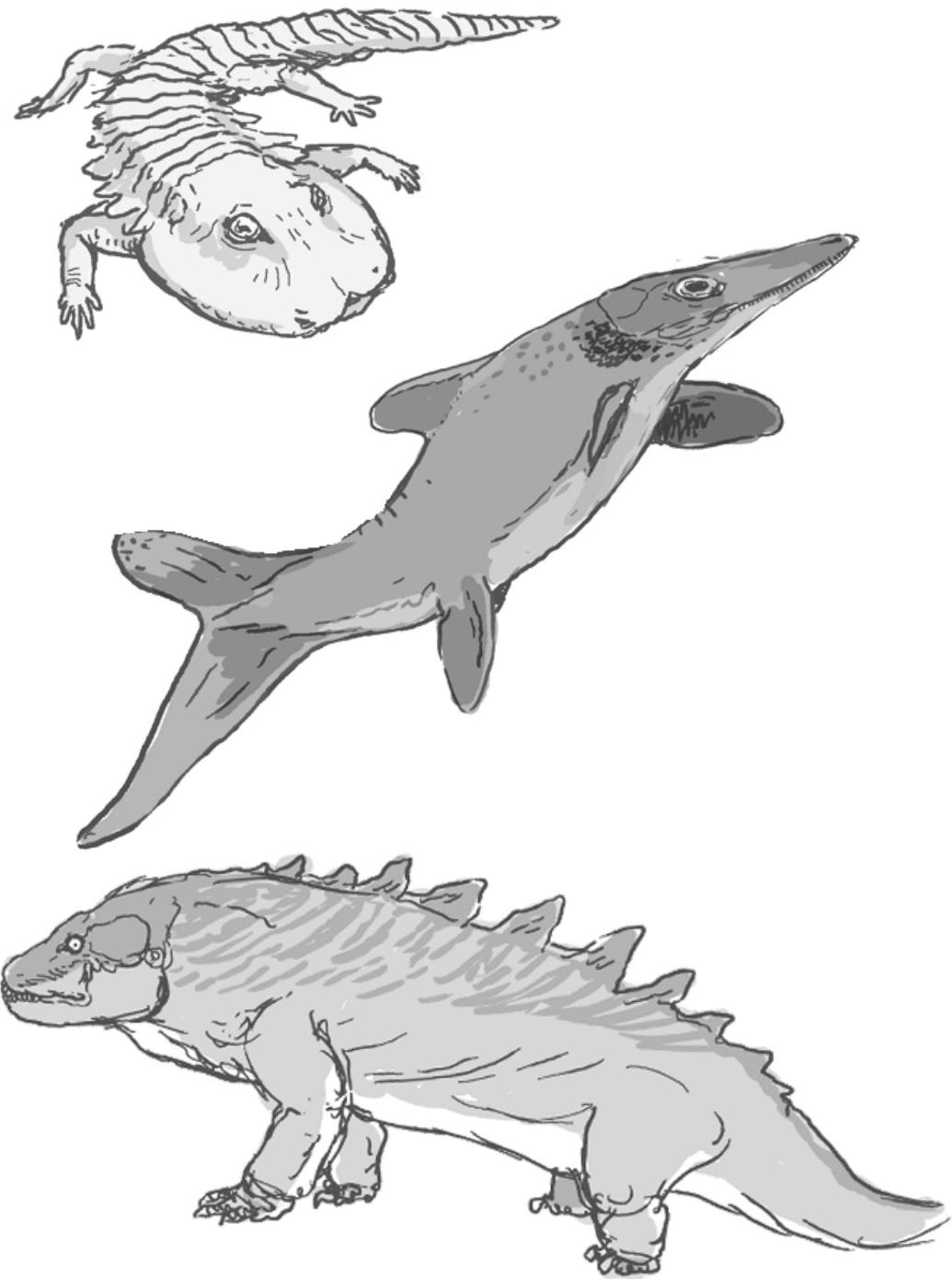
Sketches of creatures from a time-line where crocodile-like reptiles, as opposed to dinosaurs, dominated the world during the Mesozoic. We see a gracile, bounding herbivore descended from *Effigia*-like animals, and a giant, herbivorous grazer descended from *Erythrosuchus*-like ancestors, in scale with a human explorer.



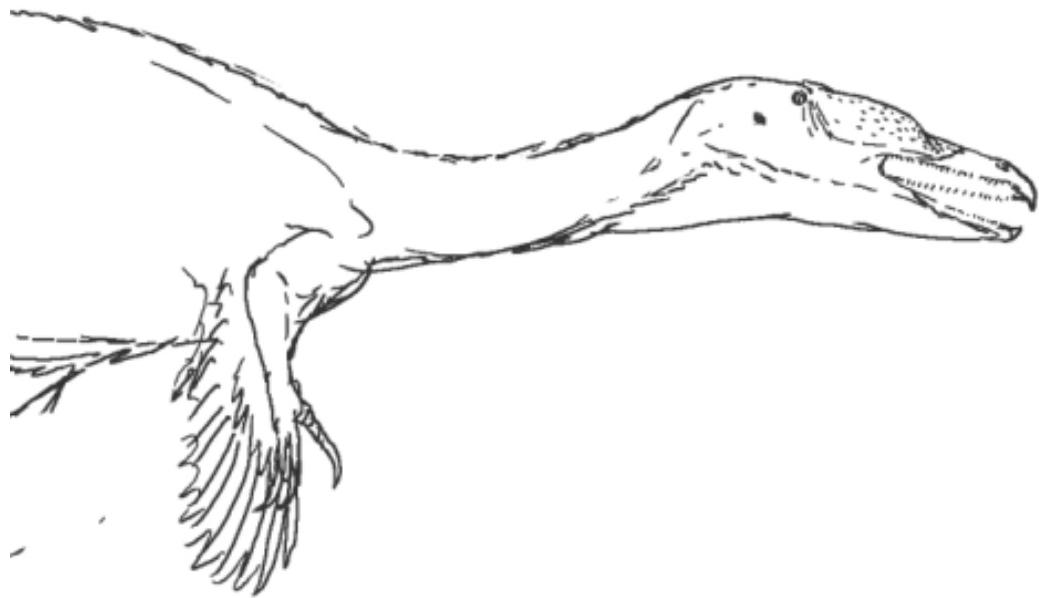
My sketch of an intelligent cephalopod, holding an Archimedes screw cast out of a semi-transparent, organic resin secreted by corals grown in specially-cast moulds. It has an enlarged brain, a bigger siphon with a dedicated pumping chamber, and its tentacles have assumed rigid joints like cartilaginous fingers. In real life, octopi arms also, briefly, form such joints when manipulating heavy items.



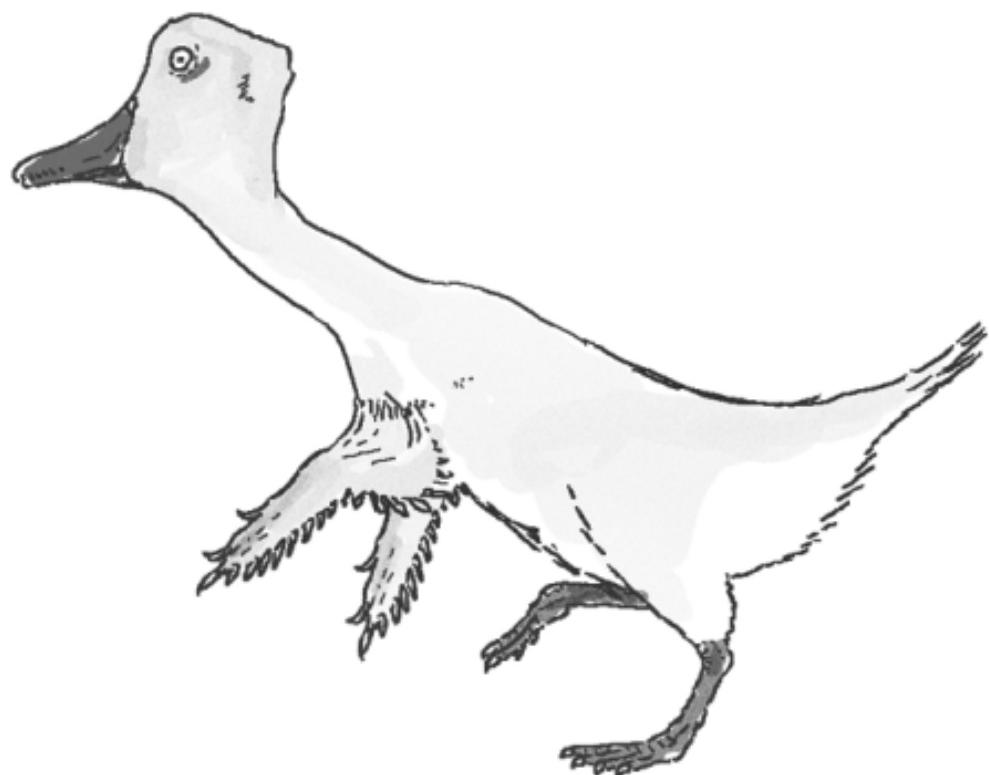
Sketch of a panda-like creature descended from early mammal-like reptiles.



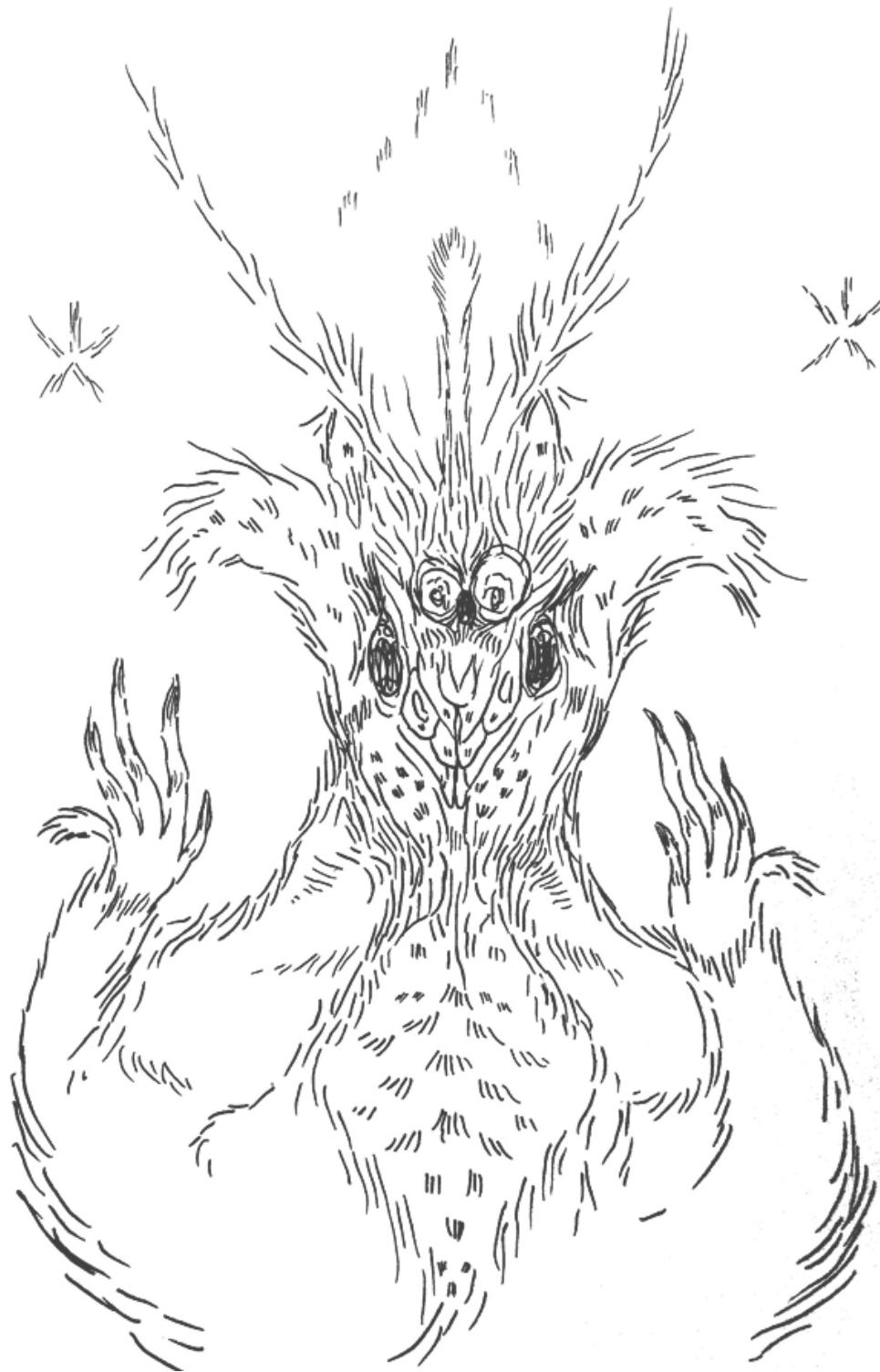
Here are three animals from a world where amphibians dominate; a lurking, armoured estuarine form that works like an ecological crossover between a turtle and a crocodile, an amphibian equivalent of an ichthyosaur (but with gills), and a big, semi-terrestrial herbivore.



Sketch of the predatory dinosaur *Austroraptor*.



Sketch of a speculative, duck-like dinosaur.



Sketch of a hairy demon-creature.



Whimsical sketch of a humanoid creature with two insect heads, experimenting with lightning dripping from his fingers.



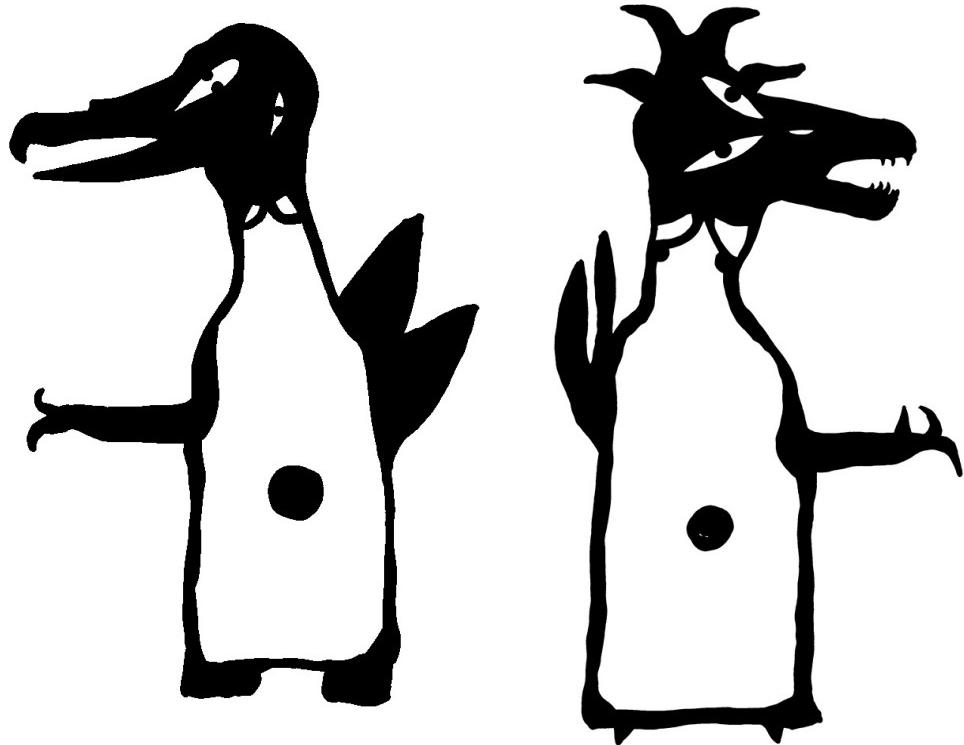
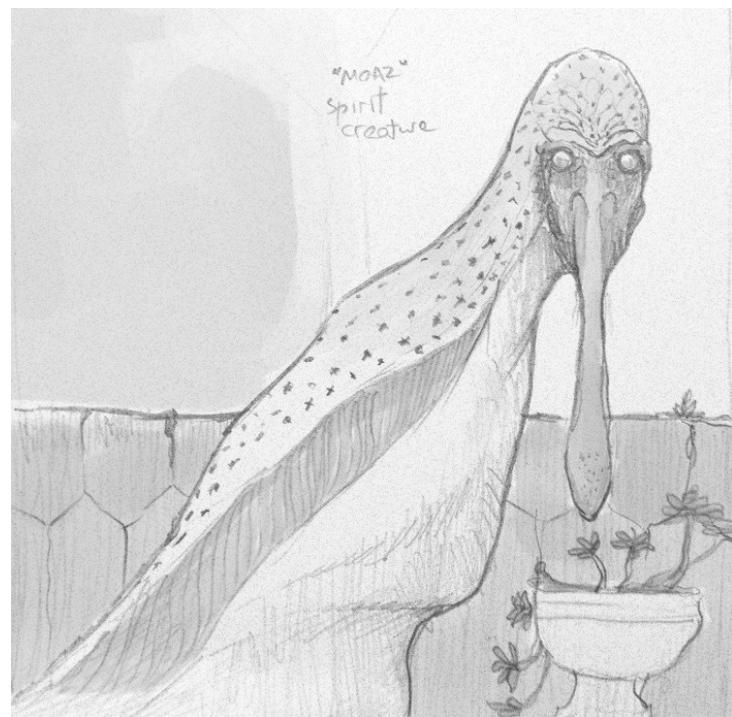
In December 2013, me, John Conway and Darren Naish held a launch & signing session for our latest book, named the *Cryptozoologicon*. We had a great time, and many of our fans asked us to draw little zoology or cryptid-themed artworks on the books they bought at the event. Here is a collection of those sketches.



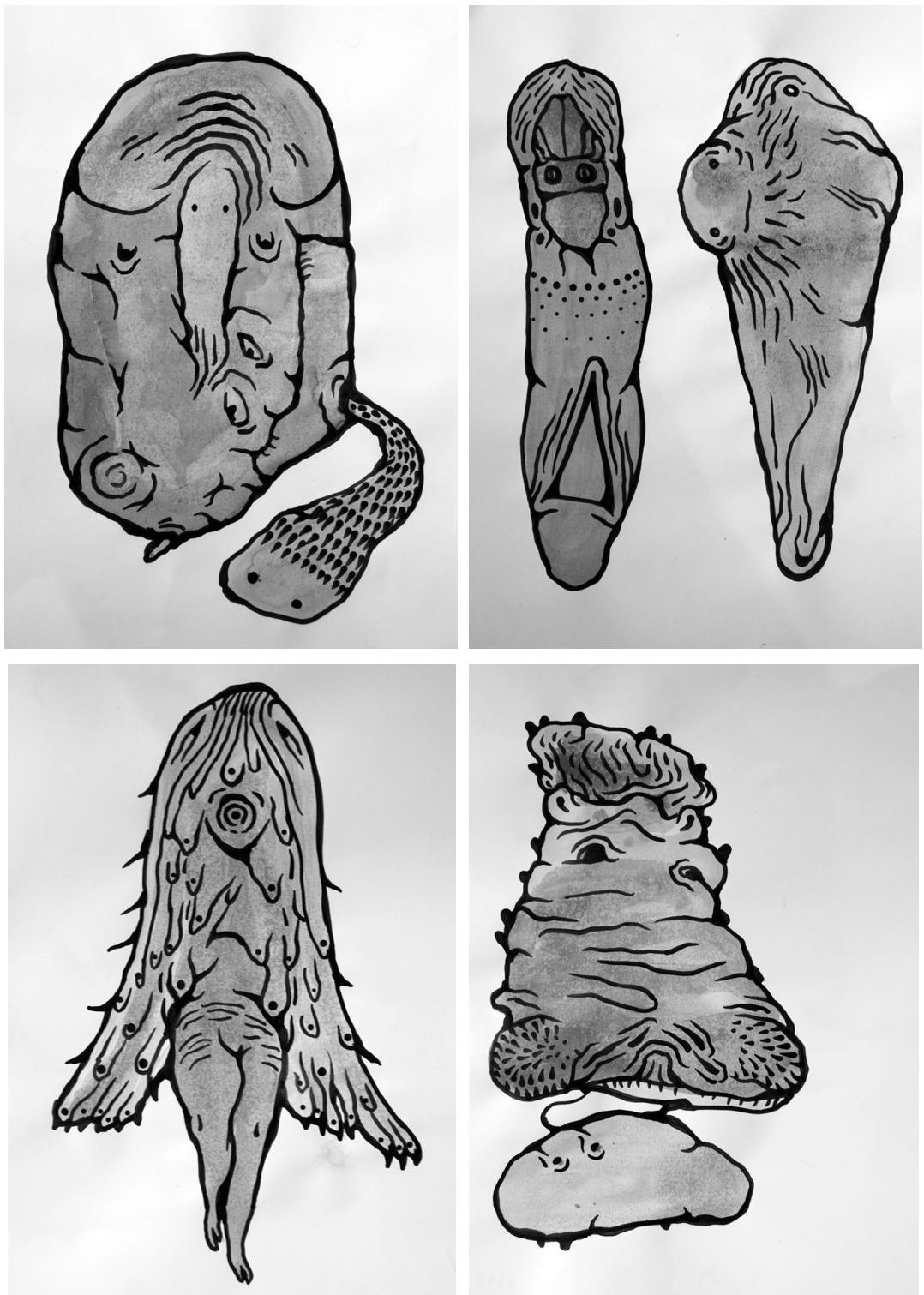
Sketch of an inter-dimensional wanderer.



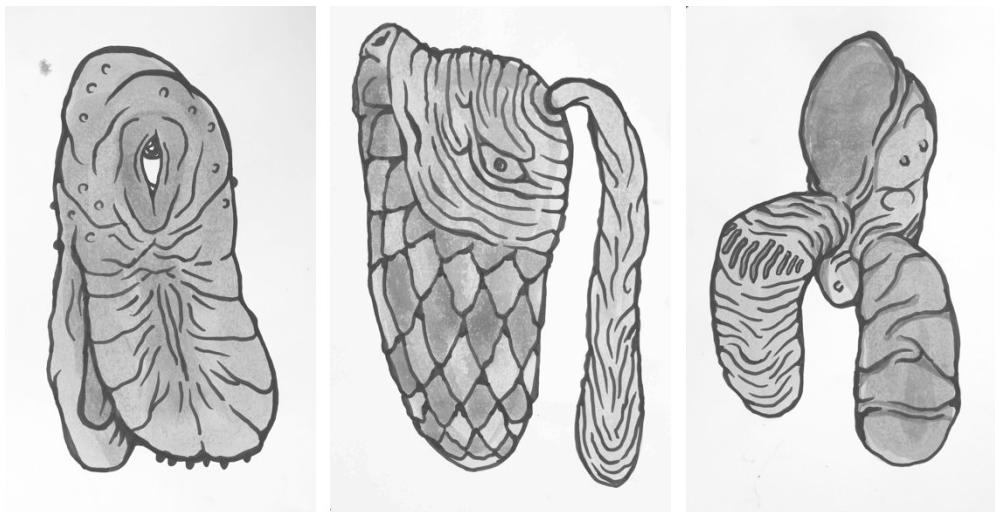
Sketch of a silly, Horus-like spirit, and “Moaz”, a spirit creature seen in a dream.



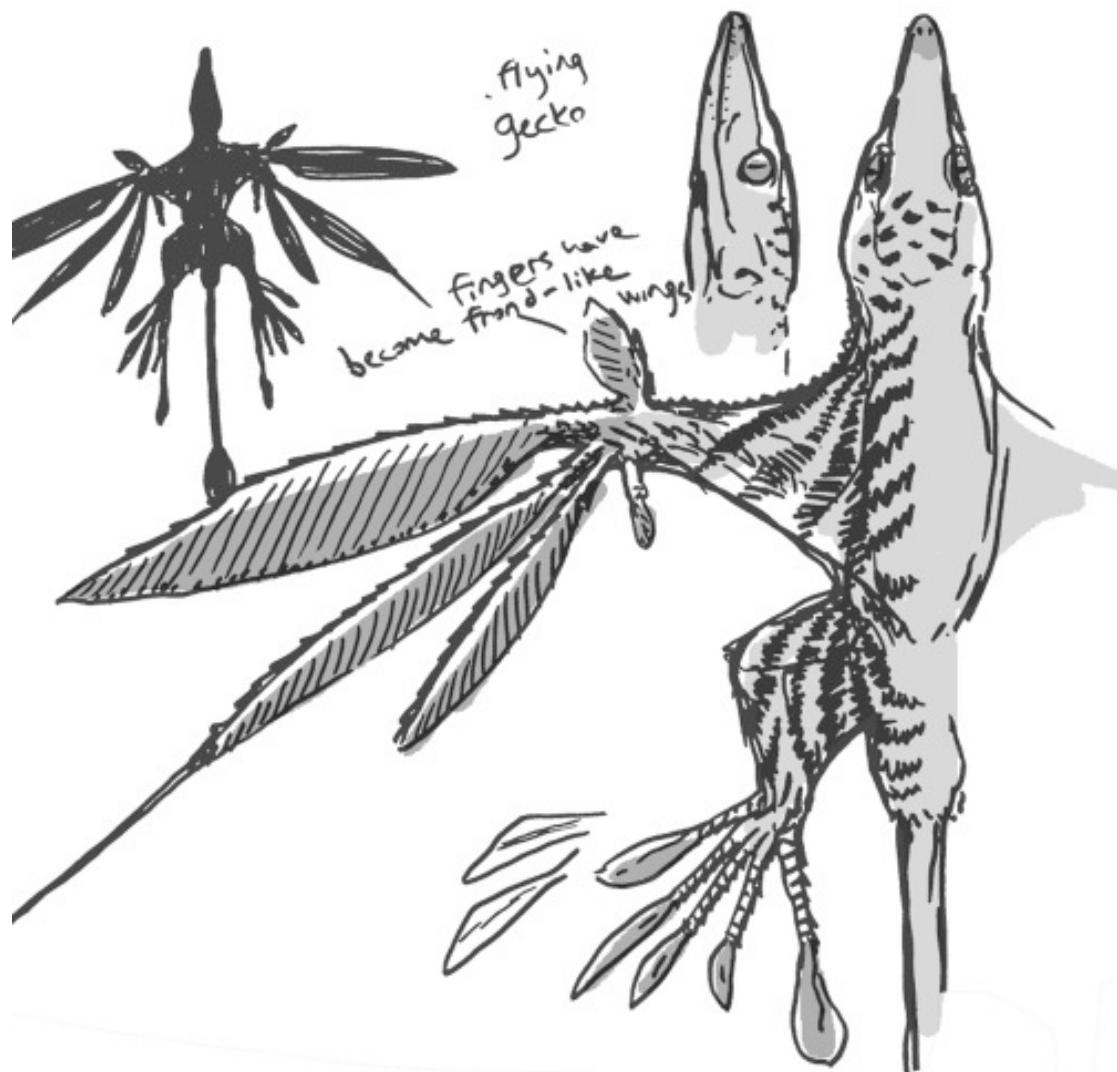
Sketches of two stylized demons.



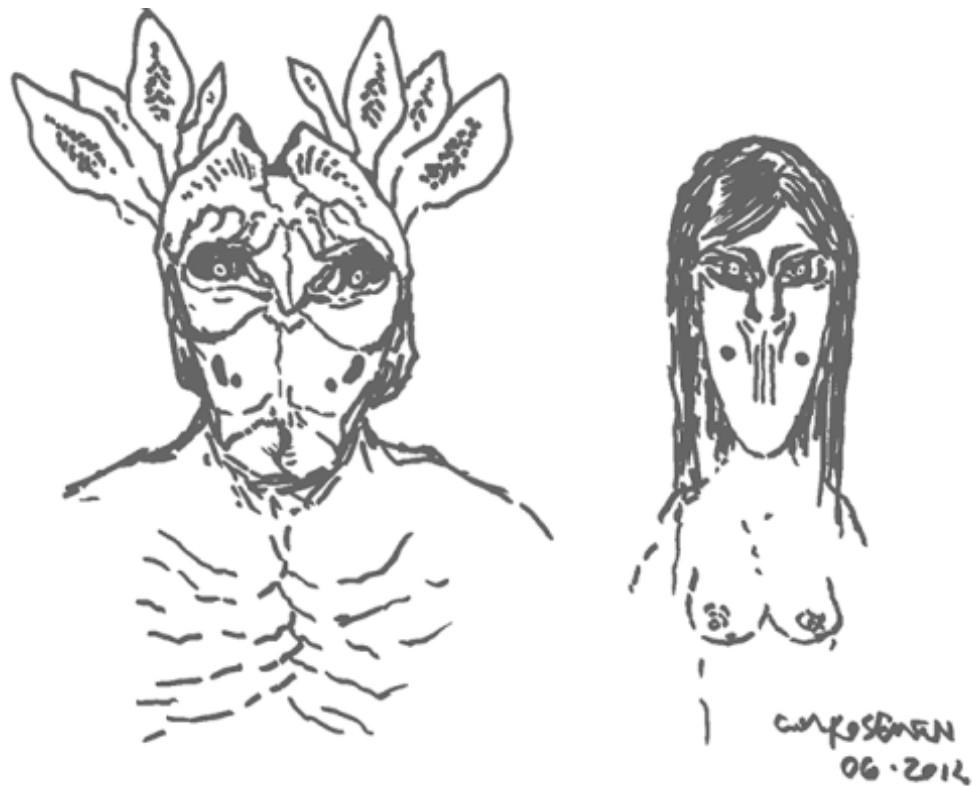
Free-form ink drawings with marker outlines.



Free-form ink drawings with marker outlines.



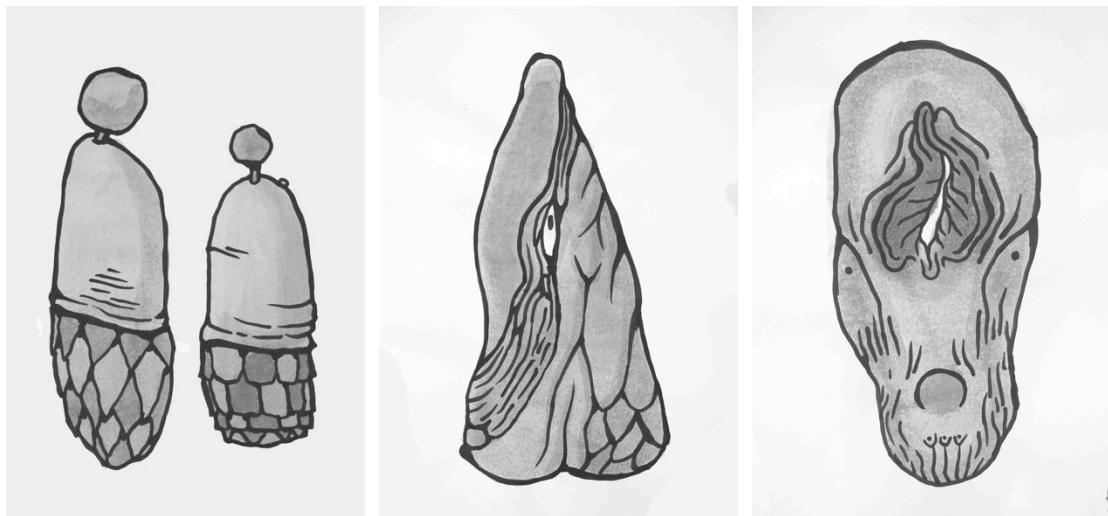
Sketch of a hypothetical flying gecko. Its toe-pads have evolved into frond-like organs that help it fly like a bird or a pterosaur.



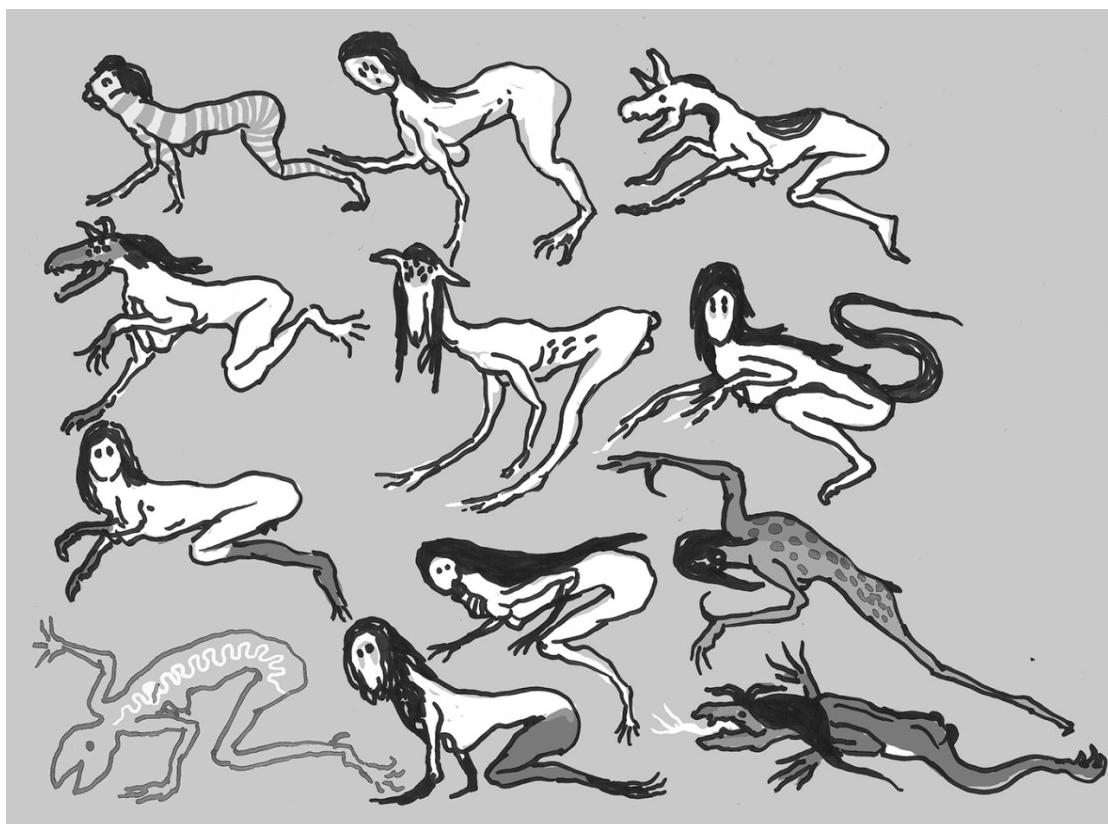
Sketches of male and female spirits.



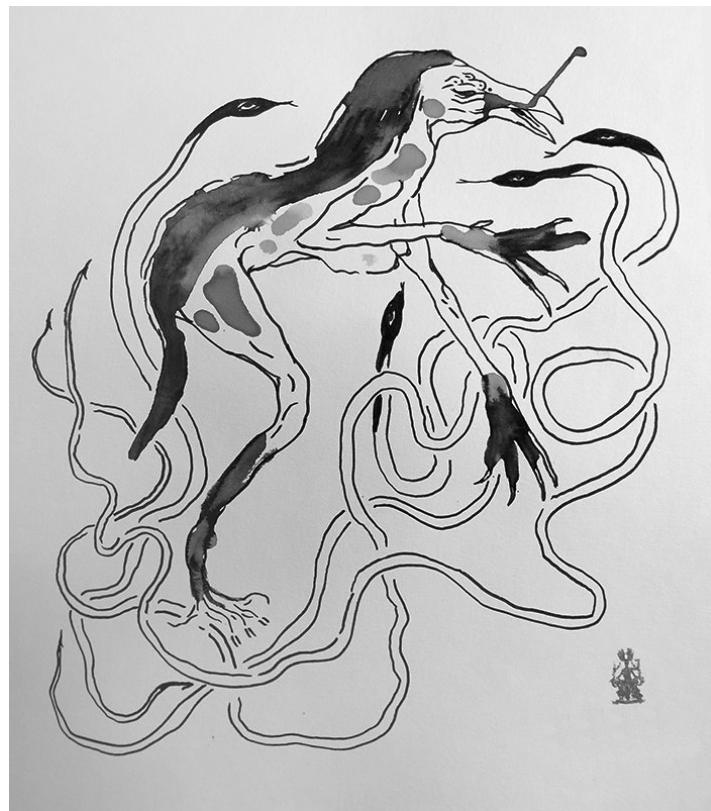
Sketch of an unearthly  
woman.



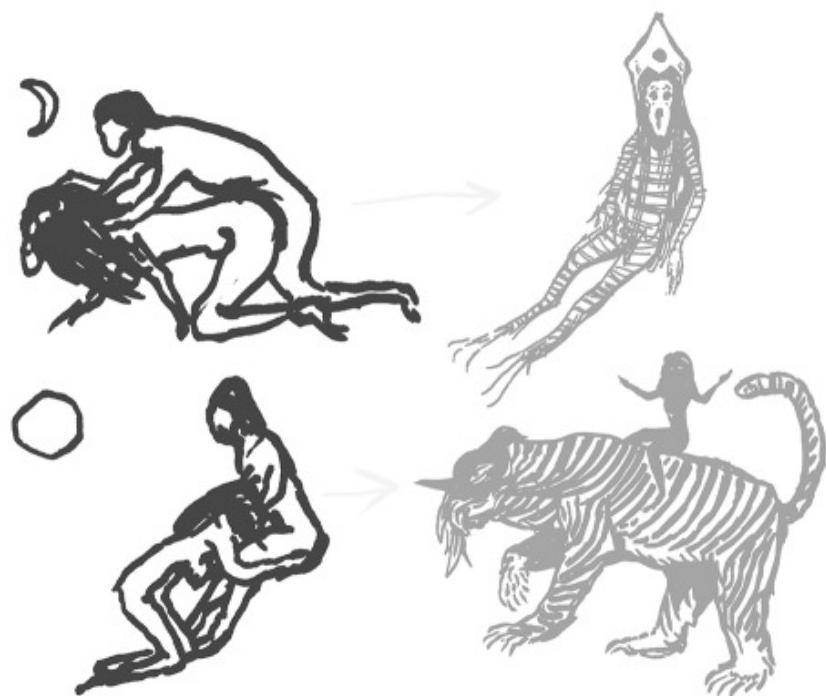
Three more sketches prepared by surrounding ink blobs with pen outlines.



Sketches of weird, humanoid monopod creatures.



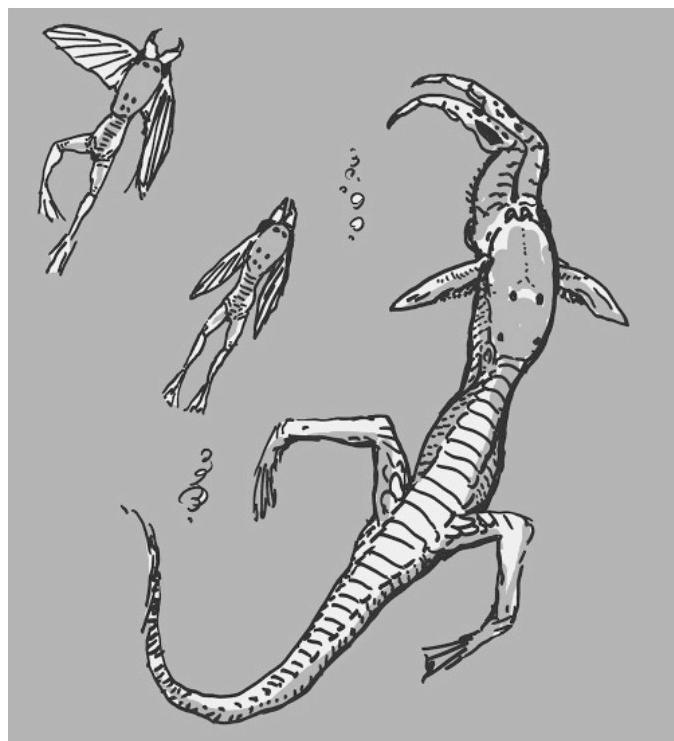
Ink sketch of an avian demon wrangling with serpents.



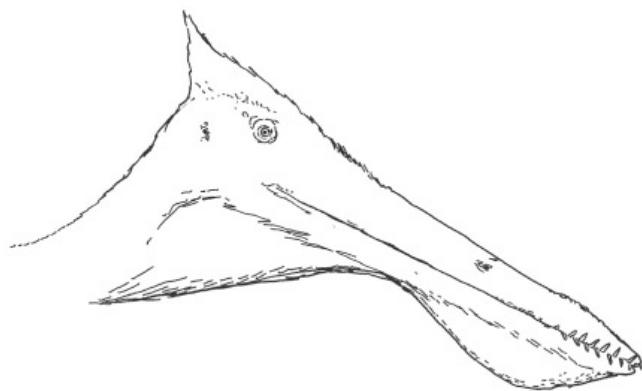
Sketches of erotic incidents and nocturnal demons.



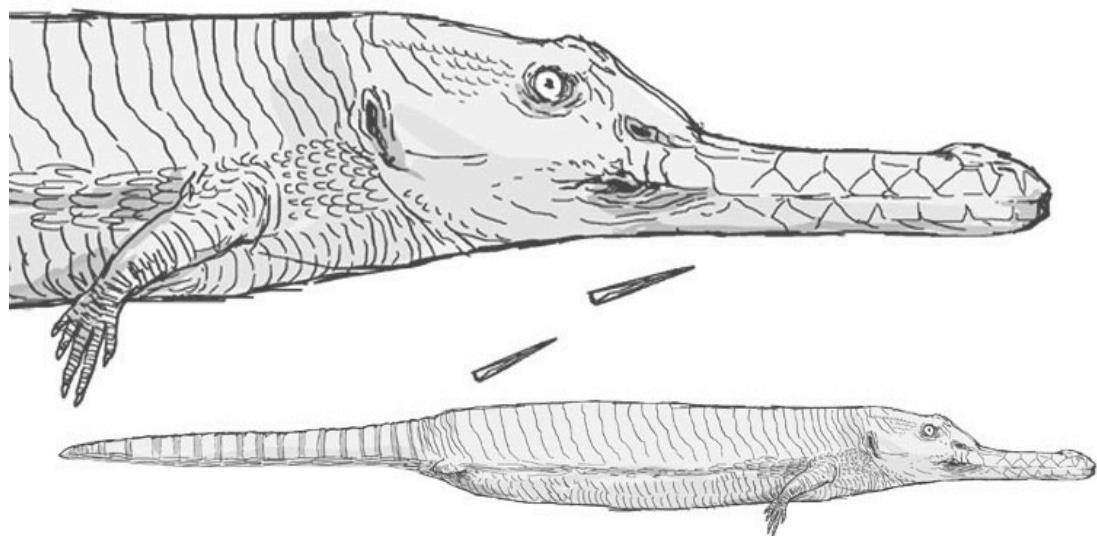
Two sketches of attenuated, striped, reptilian women.



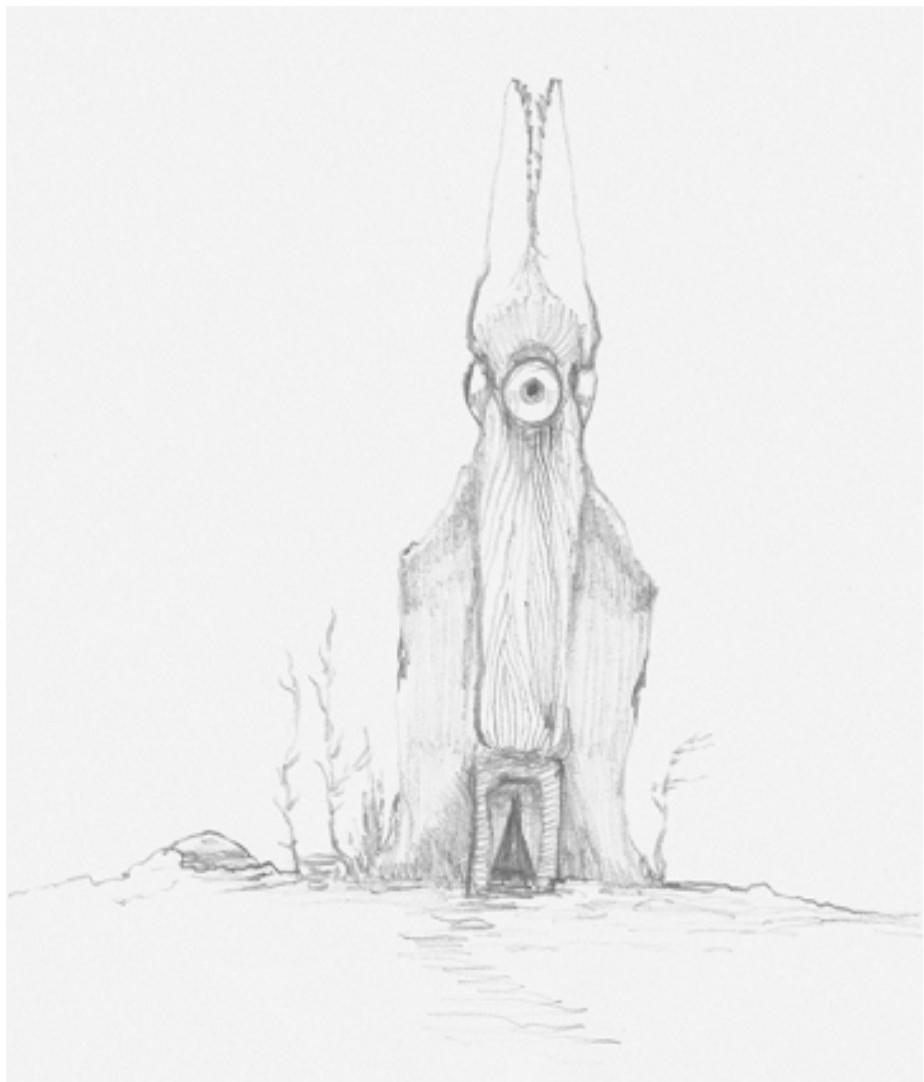
Sketch of aquatic animals from an alien planet.



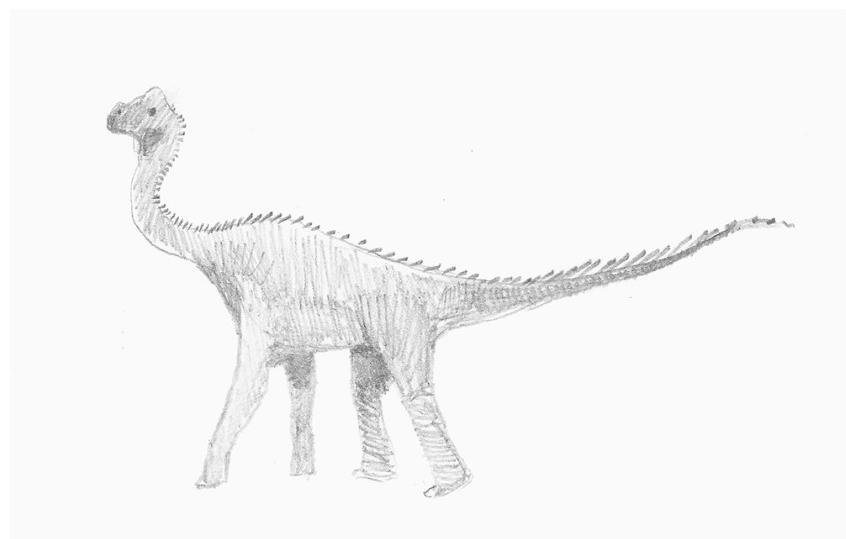
Very quick sketch of *Ikrandraco*, a crested pterosaur species.



*Hesotsan* - a genetically modified monitor lizard designed to function as an assault rifle. It shoots lethal darts from its blowgun-like nose. The entire animal is as rigid as a wooden stick. The darts are loaded from the invagination on its cheek. This orifice also receives the food it needs to survive. From Harry Harrison's *West of Eden* and its sequels.



Sketch of an “organic house” with jaws and an eye.



Sketch of a juvenile sauropod dinosaur.

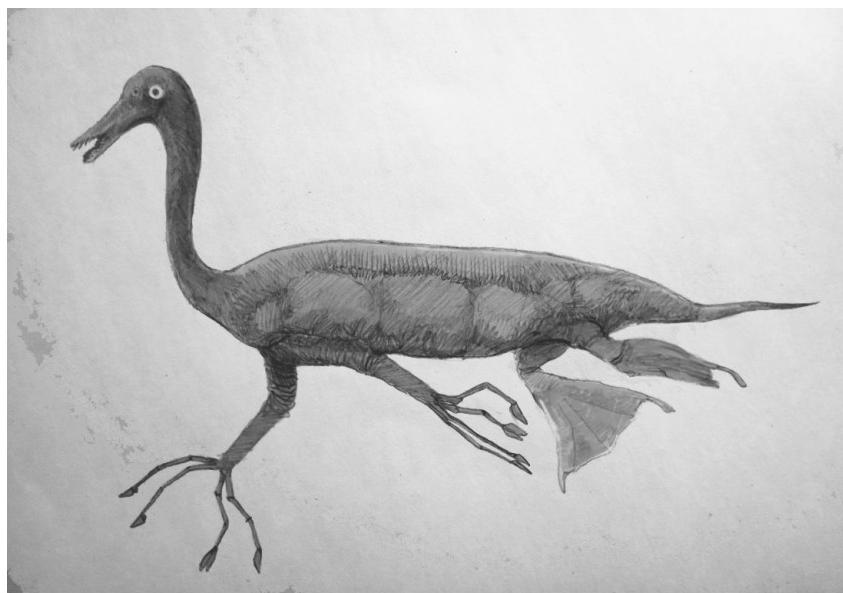
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Coloured paint sketches of various spirit beings.



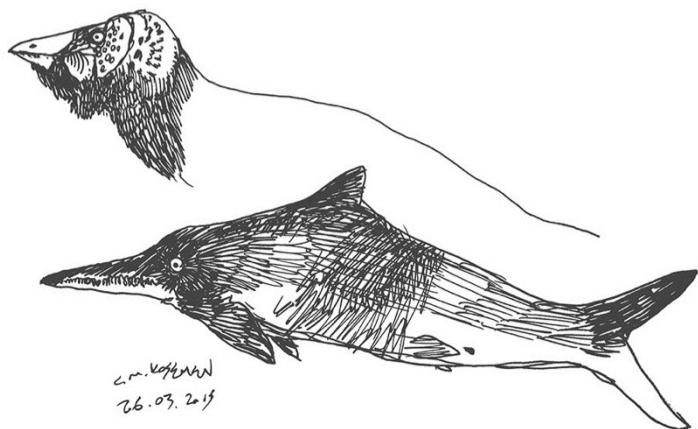
Sketch of a griffin-like fantasy creature.



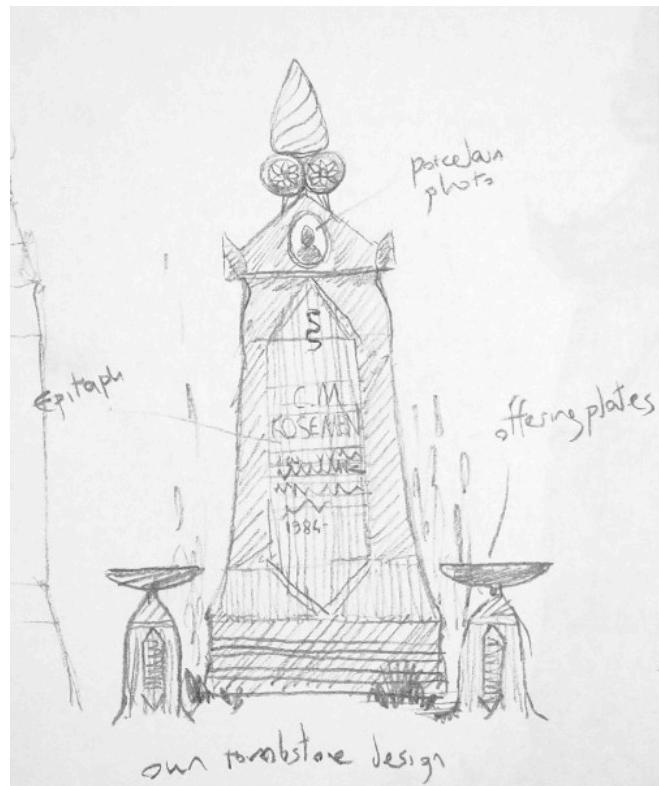
Sketch of a duck-like creature, a product of an entirely different line of vertebrate evolution.  
It has inflatable air sacs to keep it afloat, and long, dextrous fingers to capture small prey  
items from the bottoms of rivers and estuaries.



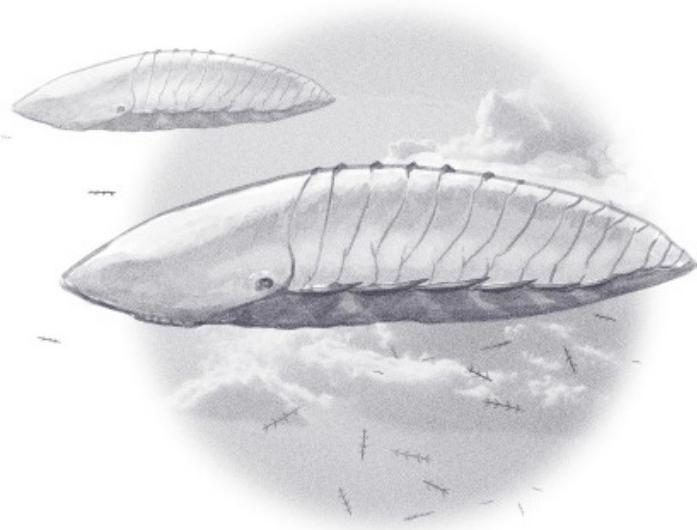
Sketch of a spirit creature inspired by the sighting of an Australian magpie, *Cracticus tibicen*.



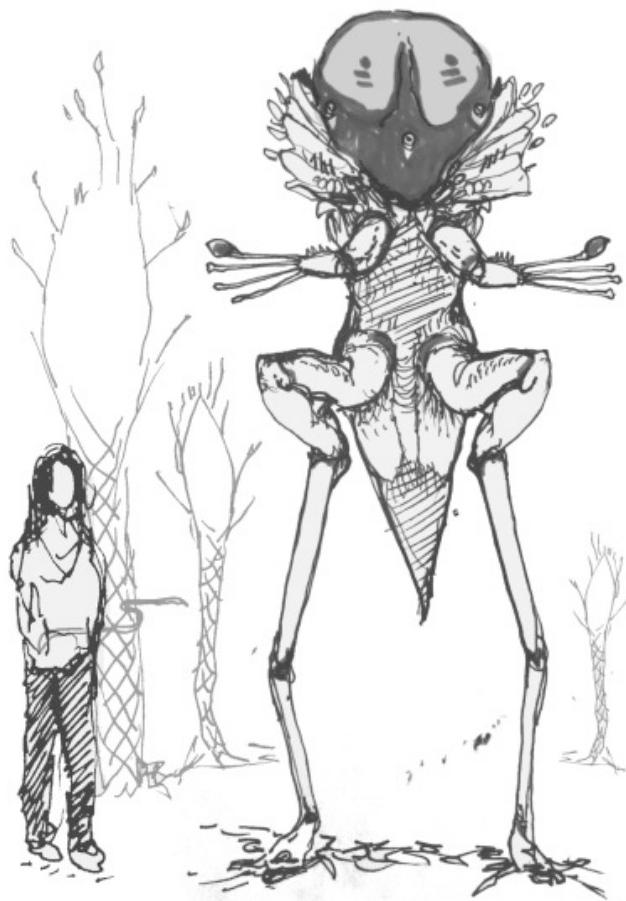
Sketches of an ichthyosaurus, and a bird-like fantasy creature.



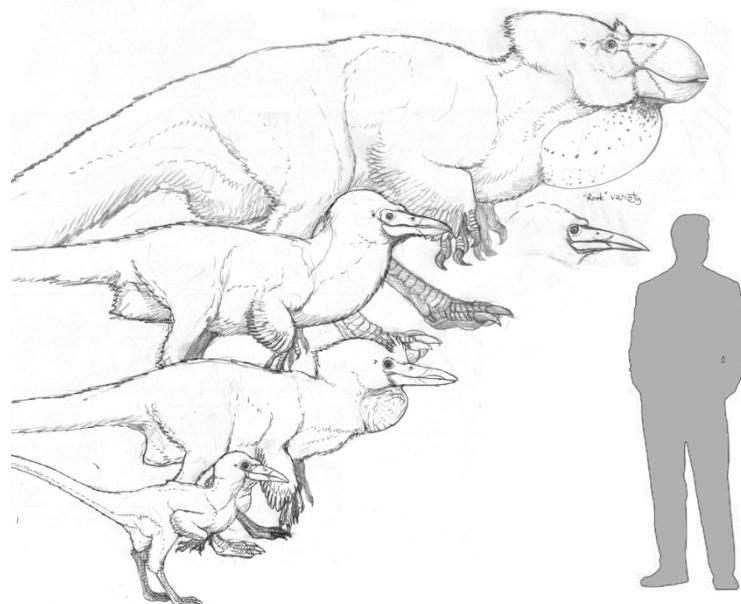
Tombstone design, based on the syncretic “Dönme” tombstones I catalogued while working on my book, *Osman Hasan and the Tombstone Photographs of the Dönmes*.



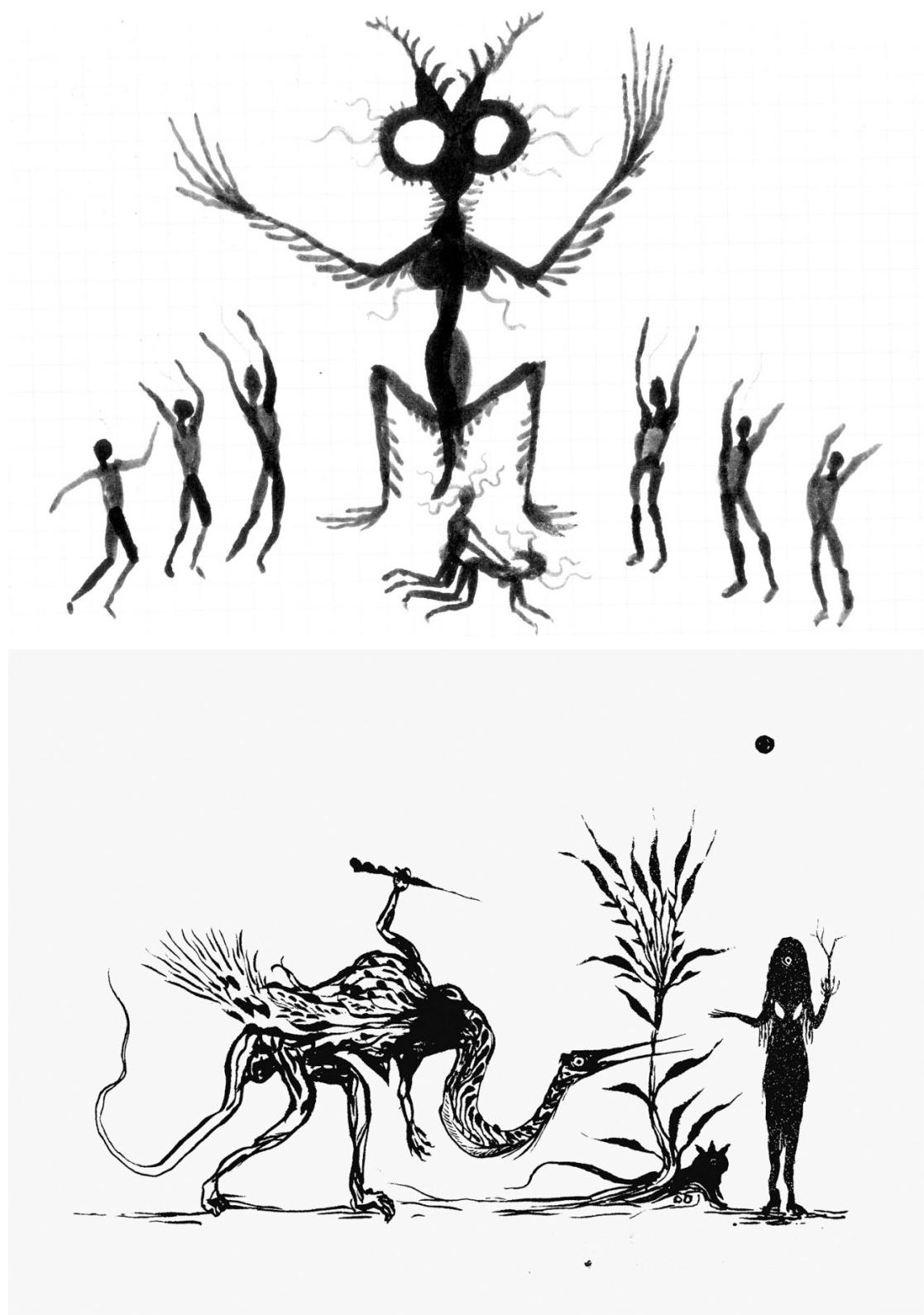
Digital paint sketch of lighter-than air animals with stick-like young. A fanciful explanation for the urban legend known as “flying rods.”



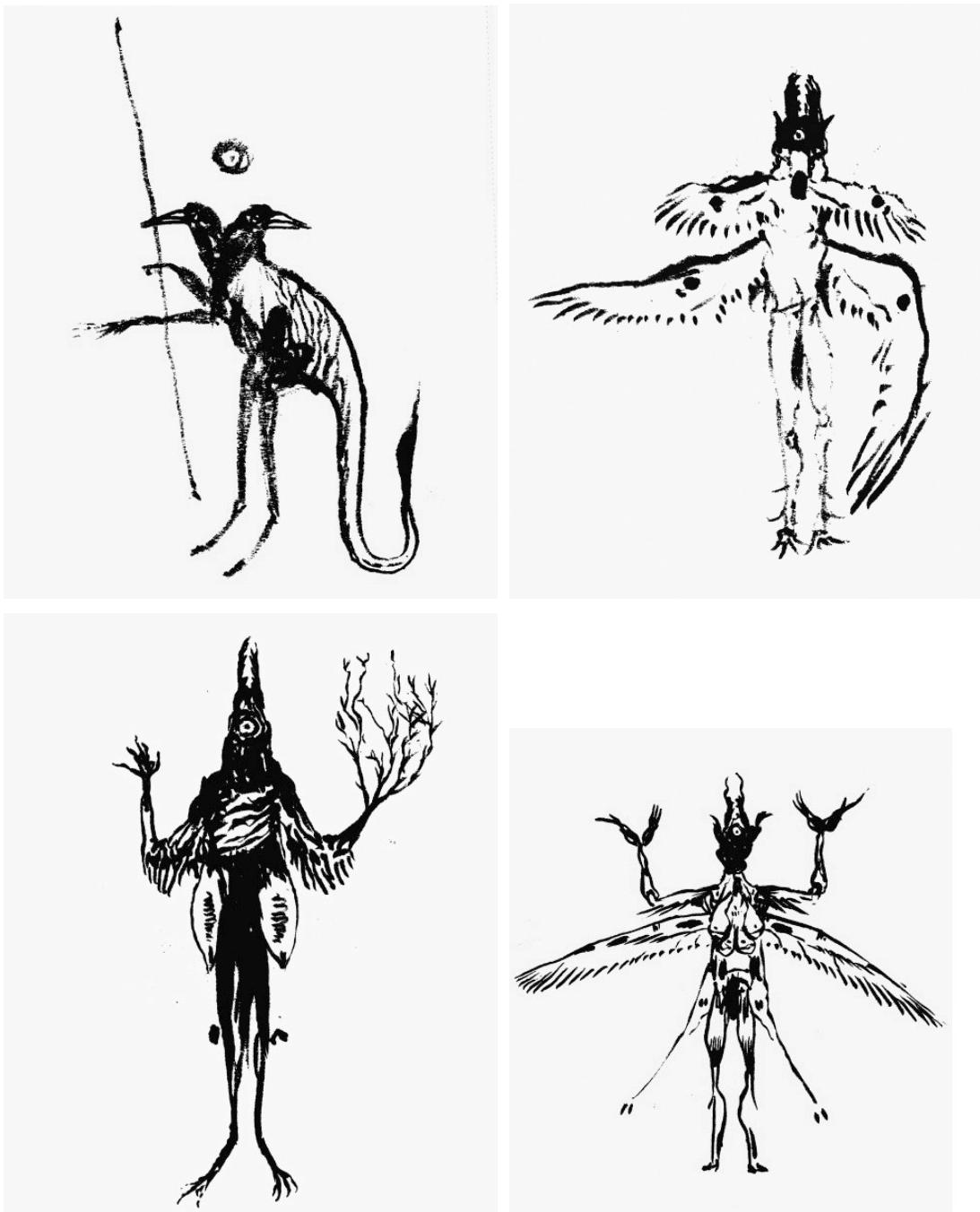
Sketch of an alien creature and a human explorer.



Sketches of intelligent  
“dinosauroid” species  
that evolved in a world  
where dinosaurs did not  
become extinct.



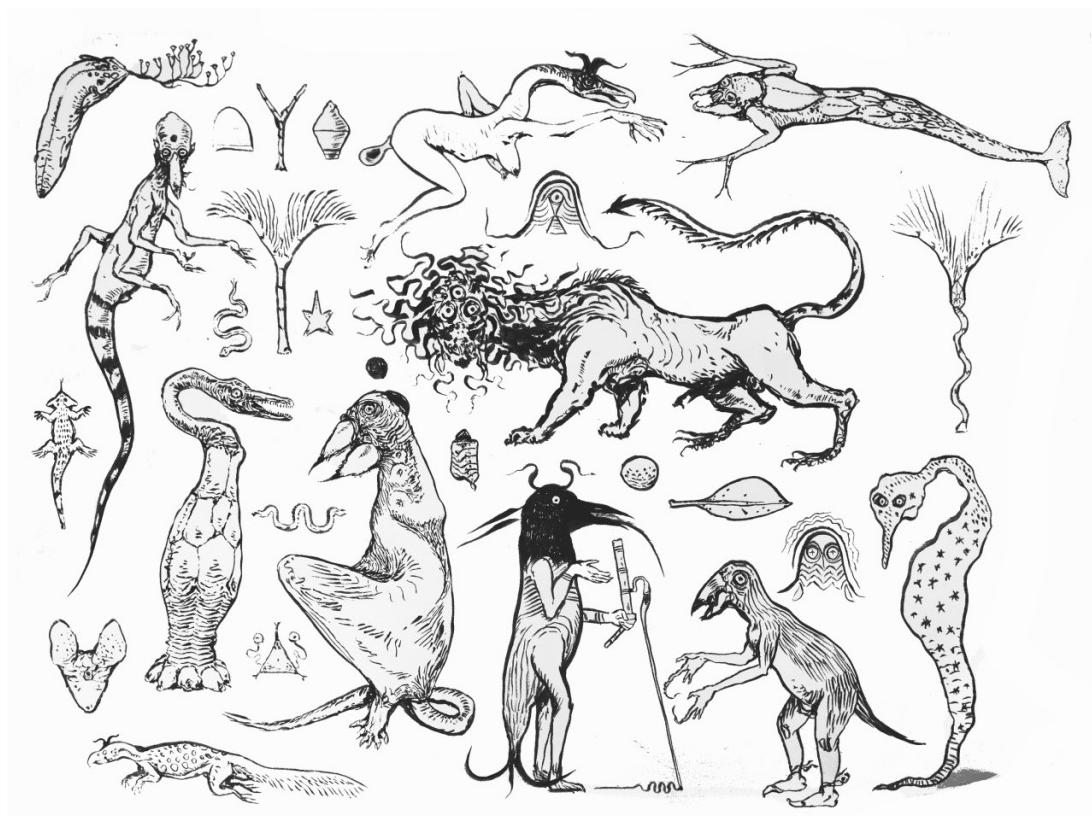
Ink sketches of various demon figures.



Ink sketches of demon-figures.



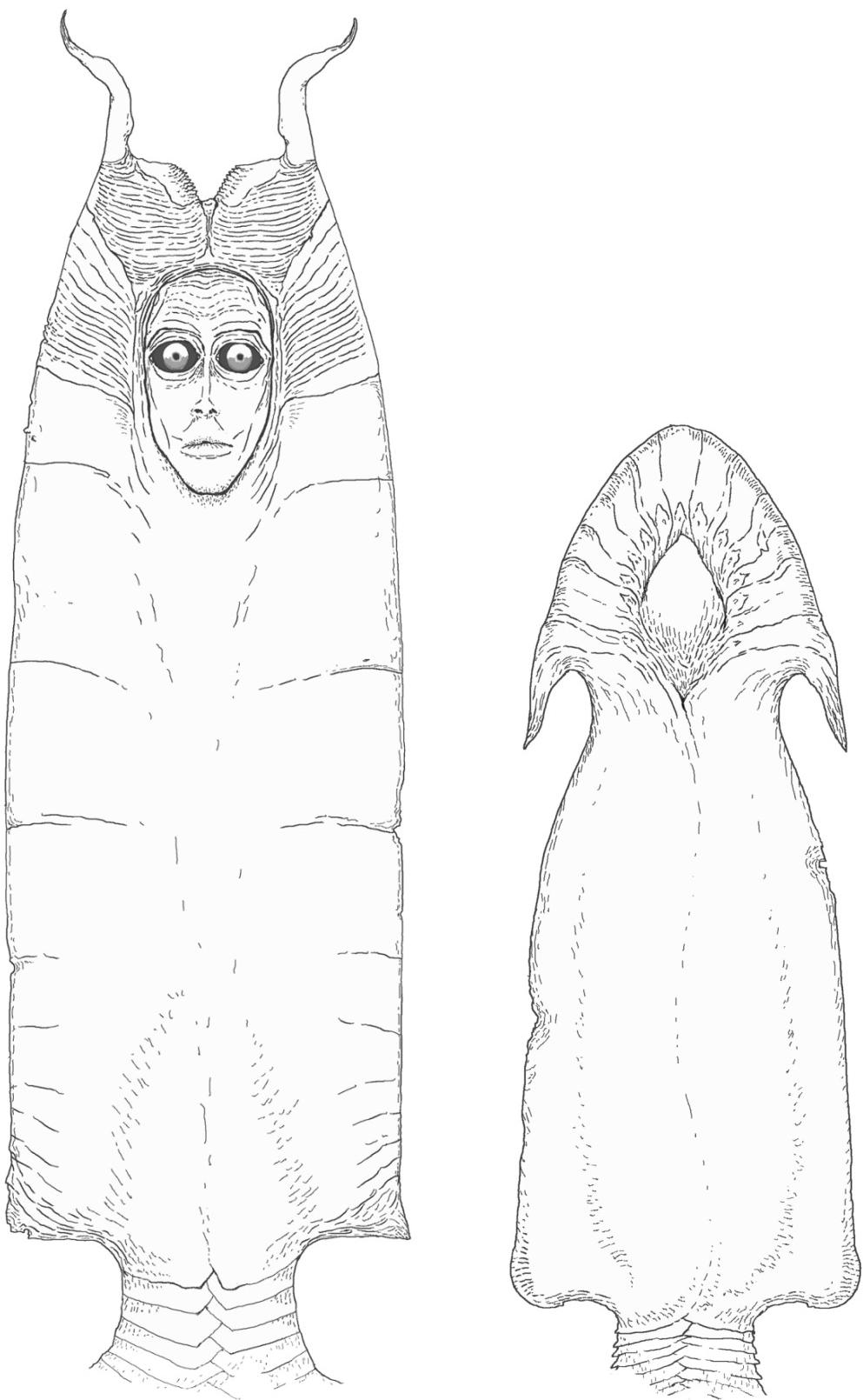
Ink sketch of a reptilian demon figure.



An arrangement of multiple fanciful creatures.



Sketch of a dancing demon-figure.



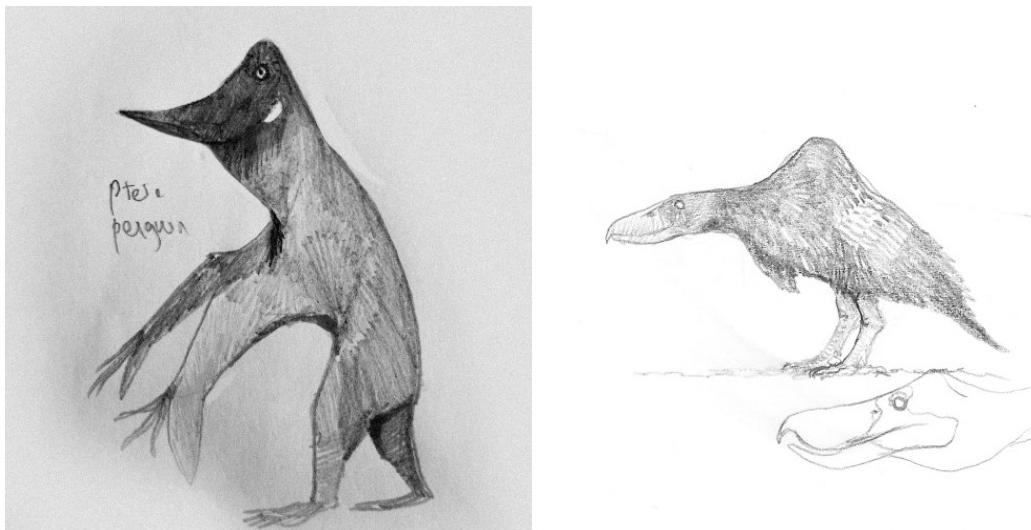
Two organic tombstone designs.



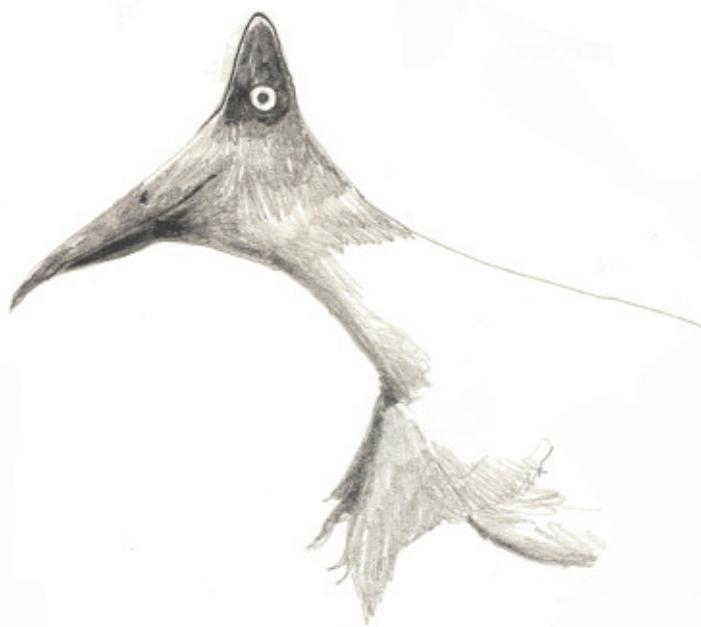
Landscape sketch with two surreal, organic tombstone-creatures.



Old paint sketch of two lovecraftian creatures.



Sketch of a penguin-like, flightless pterosaur; and a humped, giant predatory bird; both are speculative creatures derived from fossil organisms.



Sketch of a “gimby” bird-creature, another speculative organism.



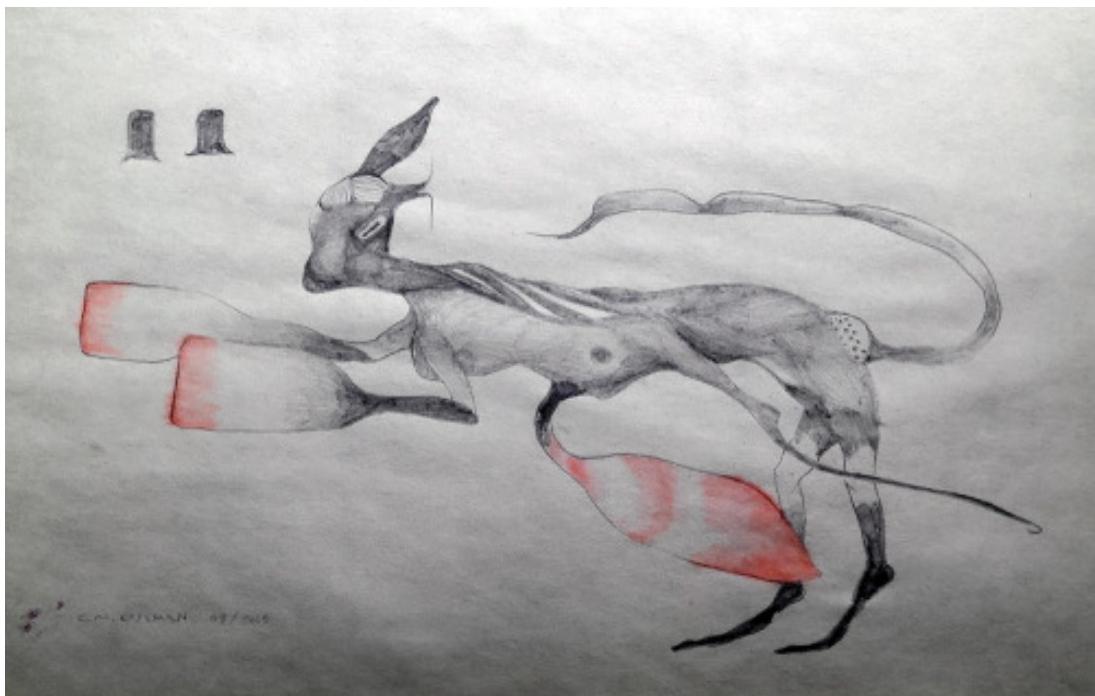
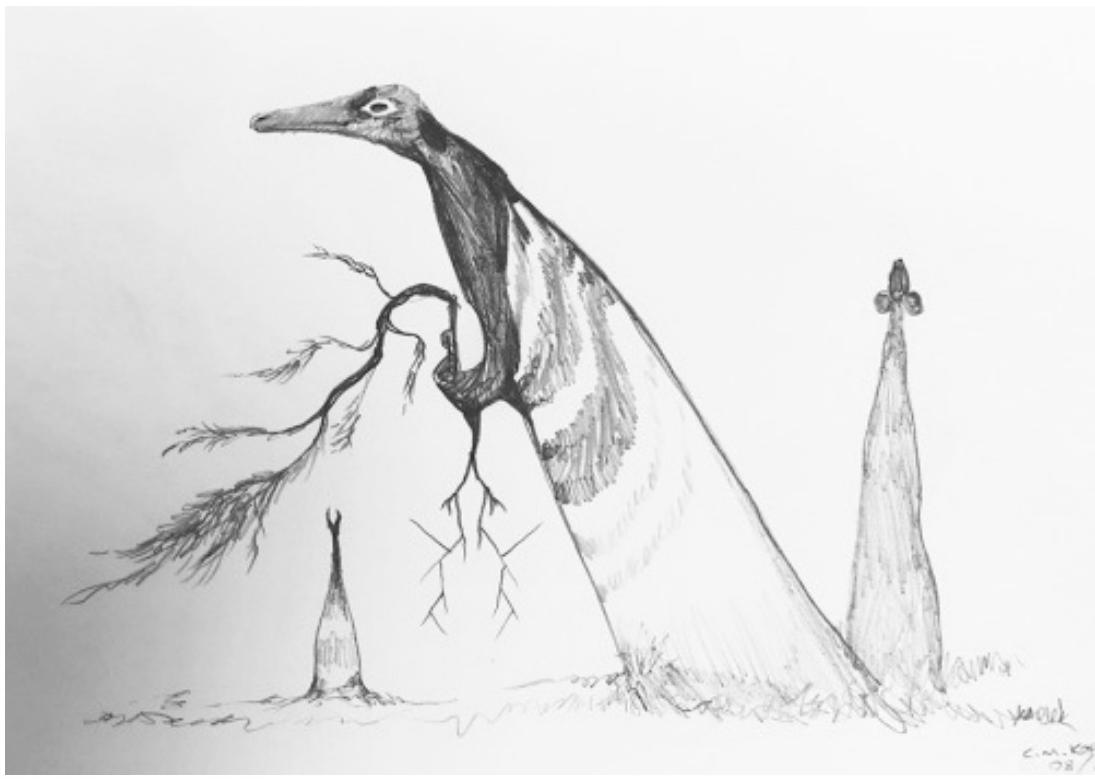
Sketch of a plucked dinosaur hatchling.



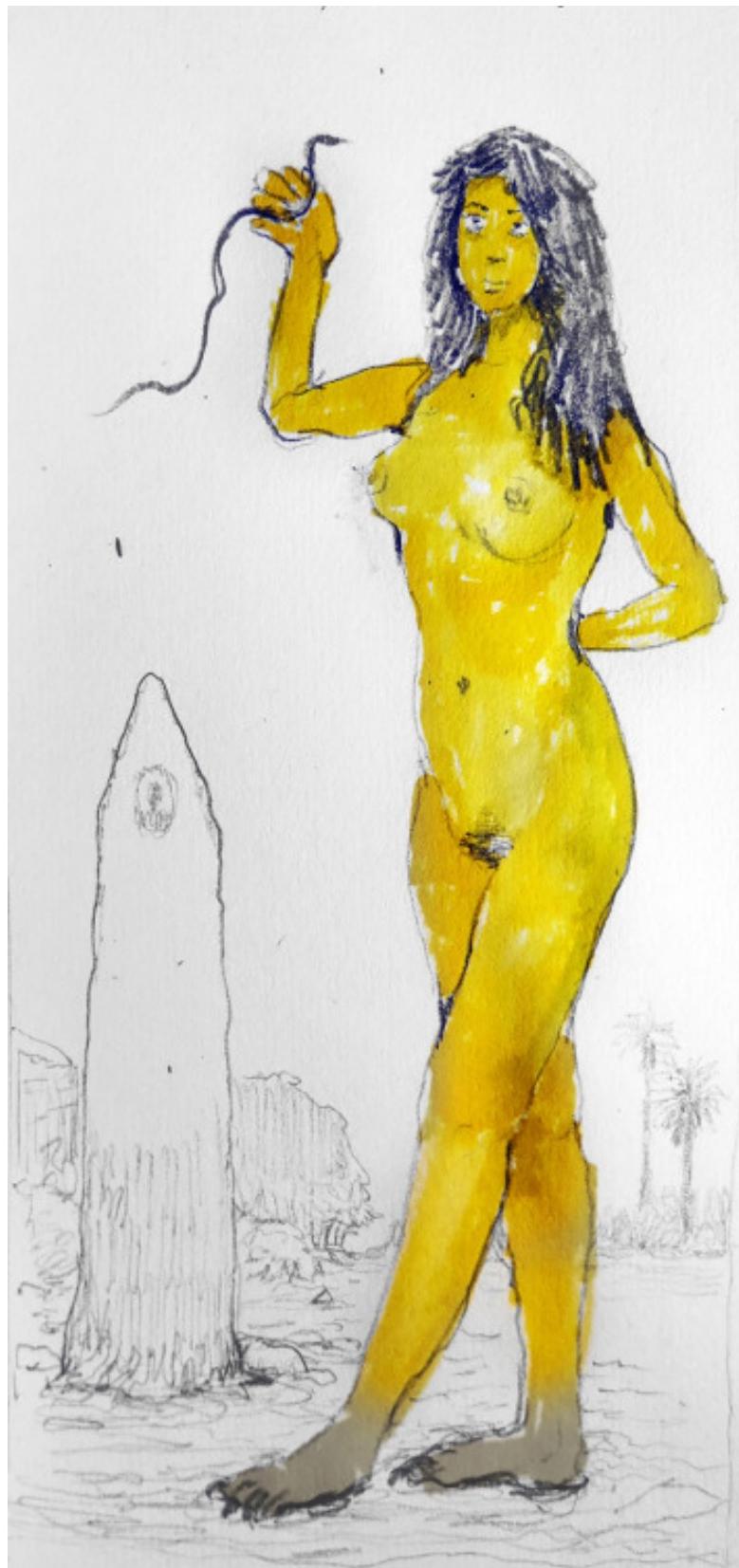
Sketch for a surreal digital scene.



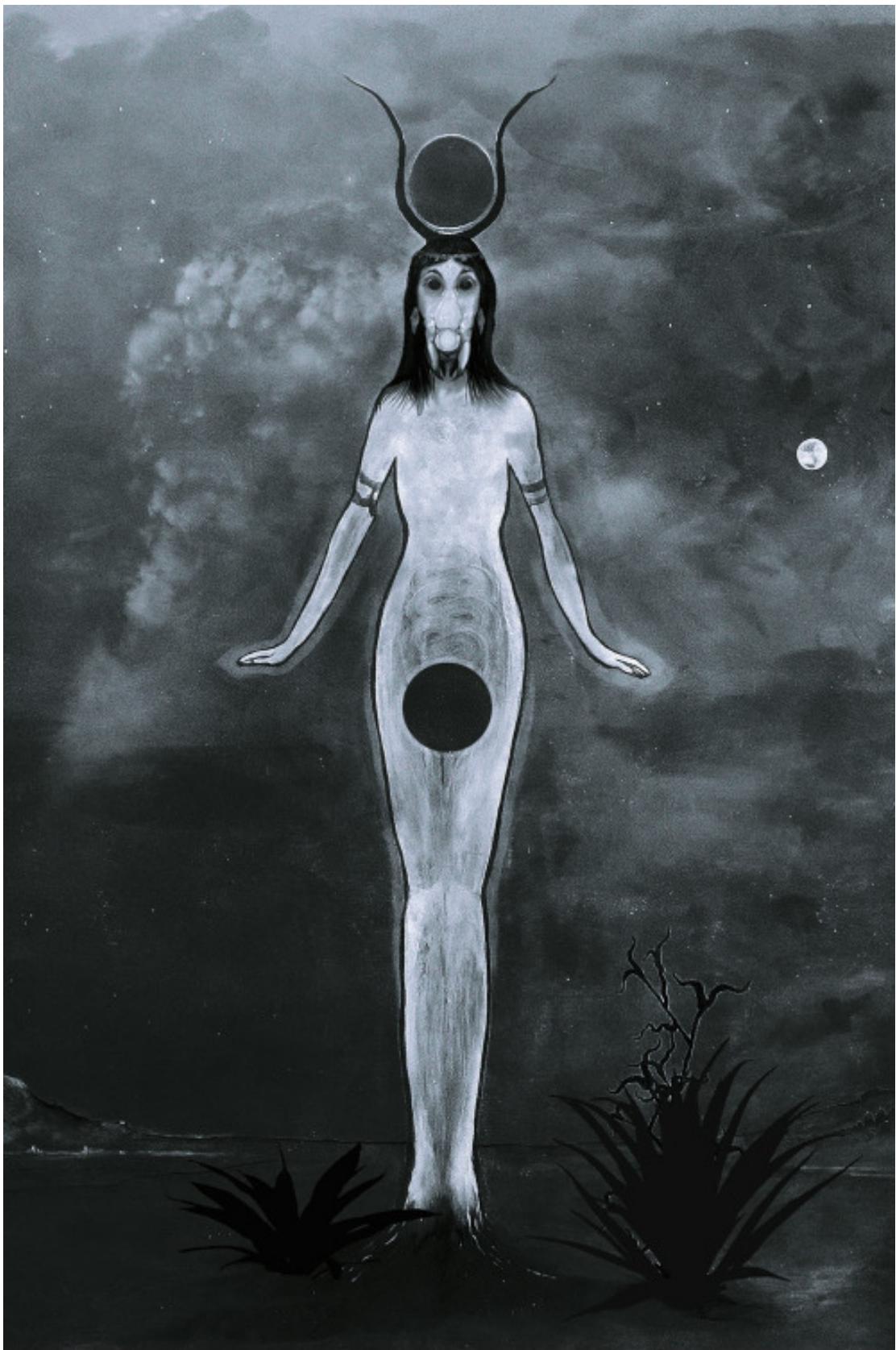
Ink sketch of a multiple-headed avian spirit.



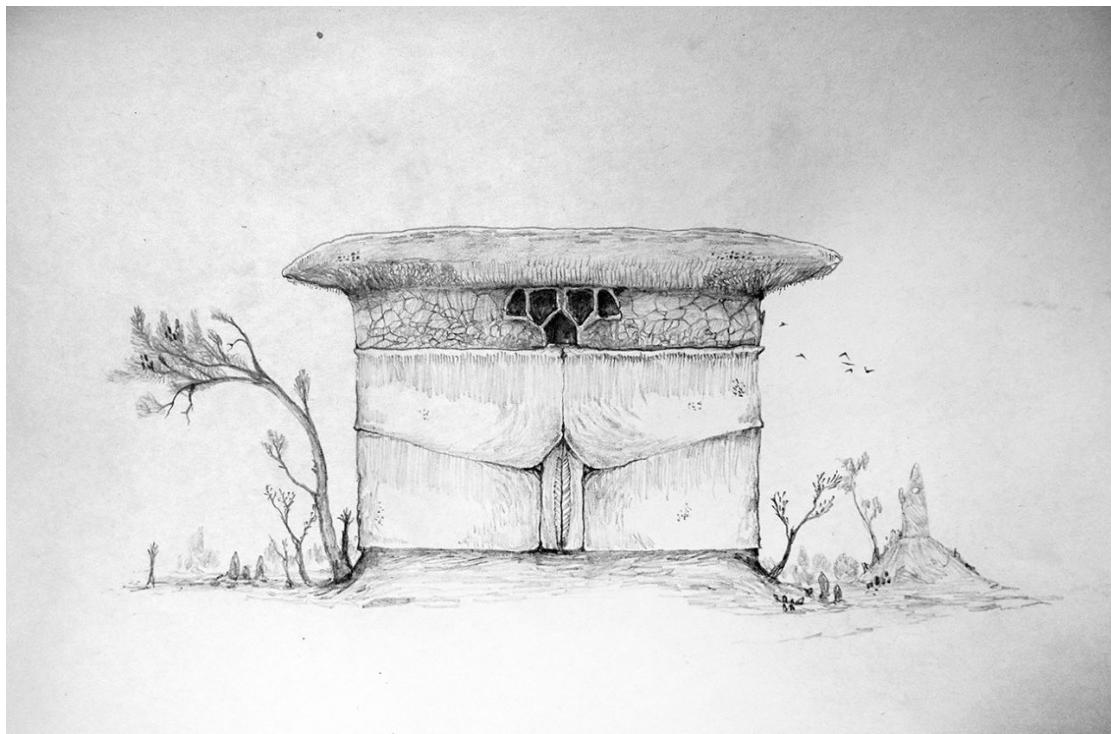
Sketches of two animal-like spirit figures.



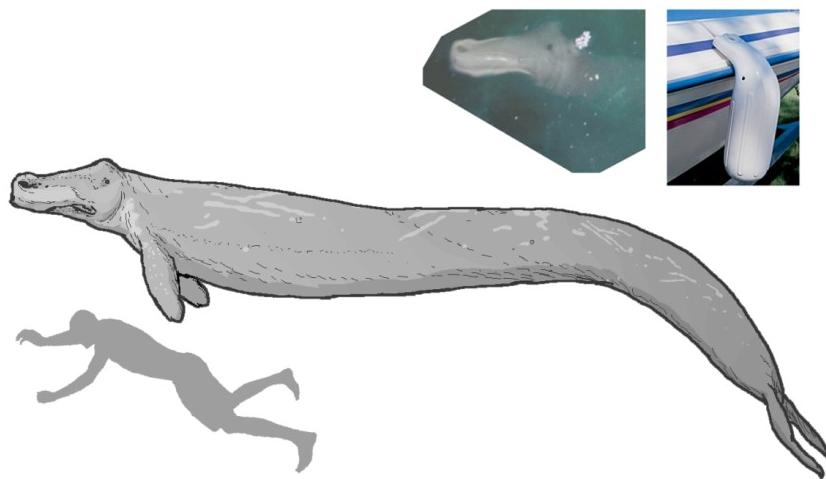
Pencil and ink sketch of Lilith.



Sketch of an insectoid female demon.



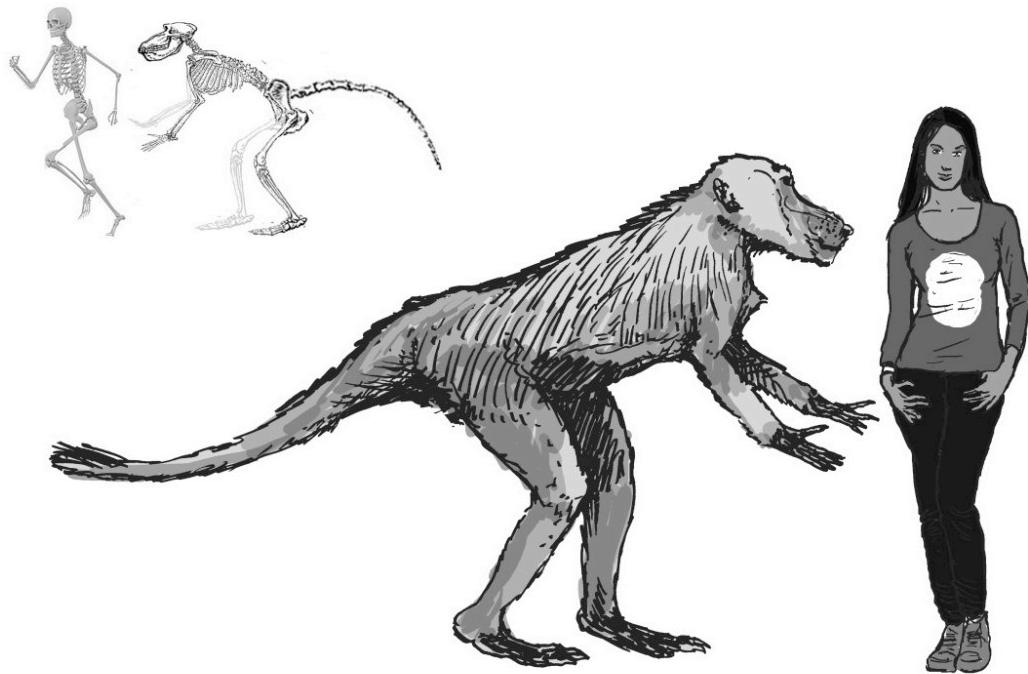
Pencil sketch of an organic house.



In November 2015, Scottish tourist Harvey Robertson claimed to have photographed “a grey creature that resembled an elongated manatee” off the shore of Parga in Greece. Too bad the “sea serpent” turned out to be a plastic low freeboard fender, used to protect boats from damage. I tried to imagine Harvey Robertson’s plastic sea serpent as a real animal. Surprisingly, the amorphous freeboard fender looks more like a plausible, unknown kind of sea animal than many other photographs or depictions of “sea serpents” before it. Harvey Robertson’s original photograph, alongside the picture of an actual freeboard fender, is visible on the upper right part of the picture.



Colourful sketch of a giant bird.

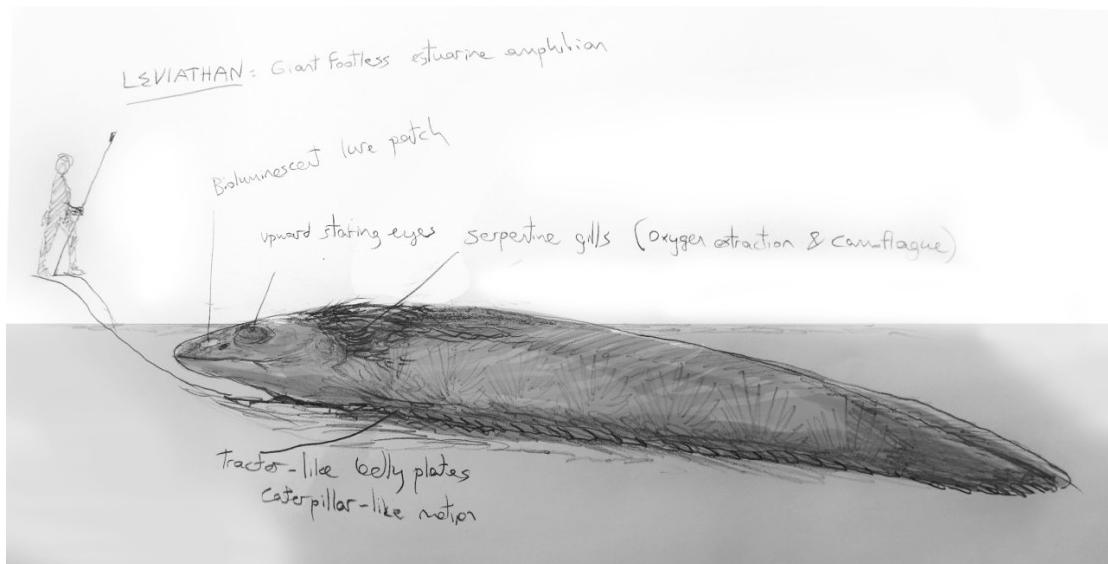


Sketch of a large, bipedal, predatory baboon; an animal which may evolve from baboons in the future.



Colour sketch of an alien, inspired by a sketch by my friend Attila Kovacs, who in turn was inspired by Wayne Barlowe's 1983 book on alien life, *Expedition*. So this is a Barlowe - Kovacs - Kosemen creature, of sorts.

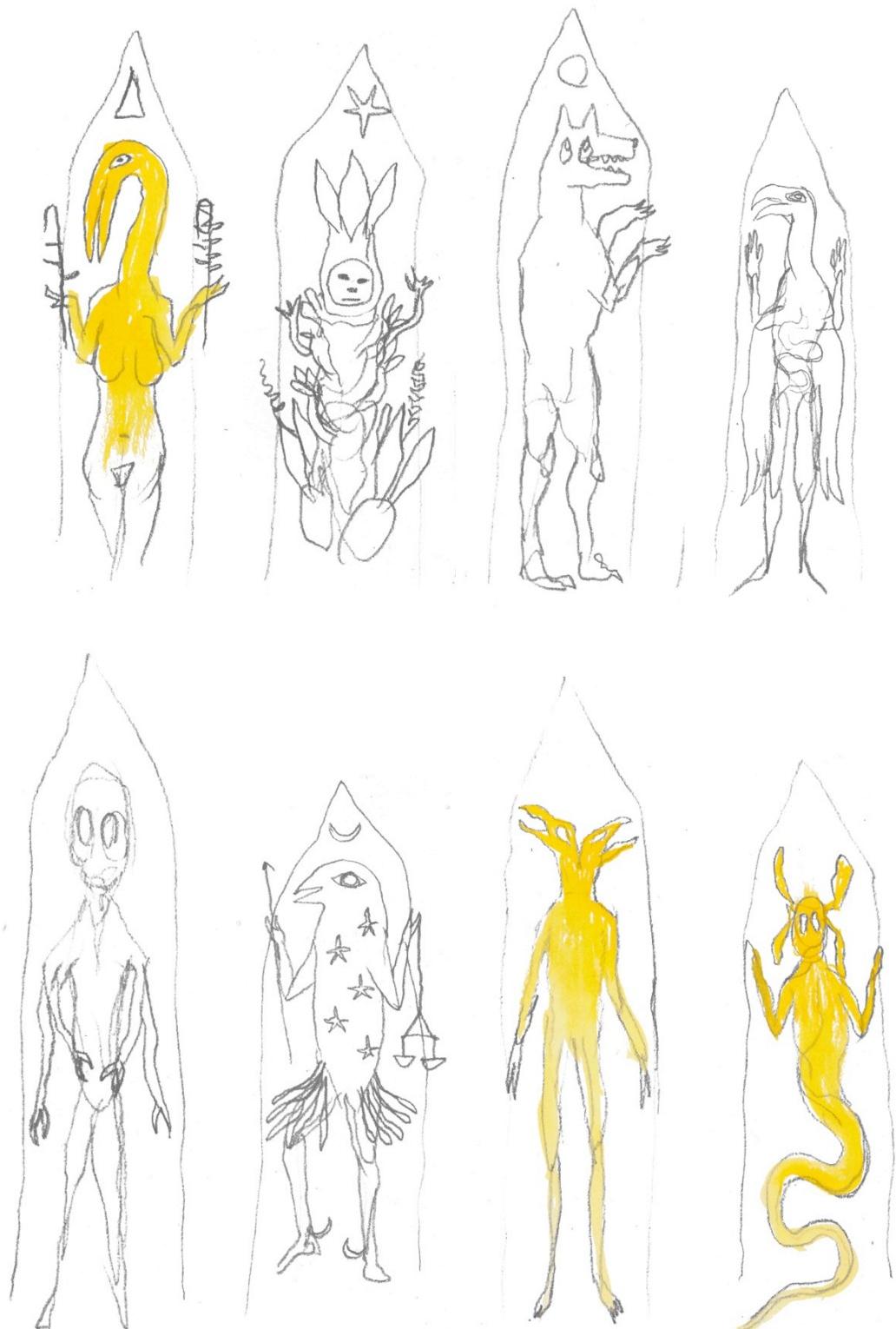




Sketch of the biblical Leviathan; interpreted as a very large amphibian with no legs and the habits of a crocodile. This was drawn at the suggestion of my online friend, “Trey the Explainer”. *Leviathan* (meaning “twisted” or “coiled”) is described as a massive, untameable fire-breathing marine reptile or fish with glowing eyes (“*His eyes are like the rays of dawn*” Job 41:18). It’s “*undersides are jagged potsherds, leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing-sledge*” (Job 41:30) and some Hebrew folklore also describes it with horns. I interpreted the horns and “twisting” things as extensions as kelp-like gill fronds that allow it to extract oxygen from water, and help camouflage the animal. The underside of the beast has caterpillar-like belly plates, it moves slowly along swamp-bottoms in rectilinear motion. The “glowing eyes” are bioluminescent patches that help it lure in prey.



Sketch of a strange man with disturbingly large eyes.



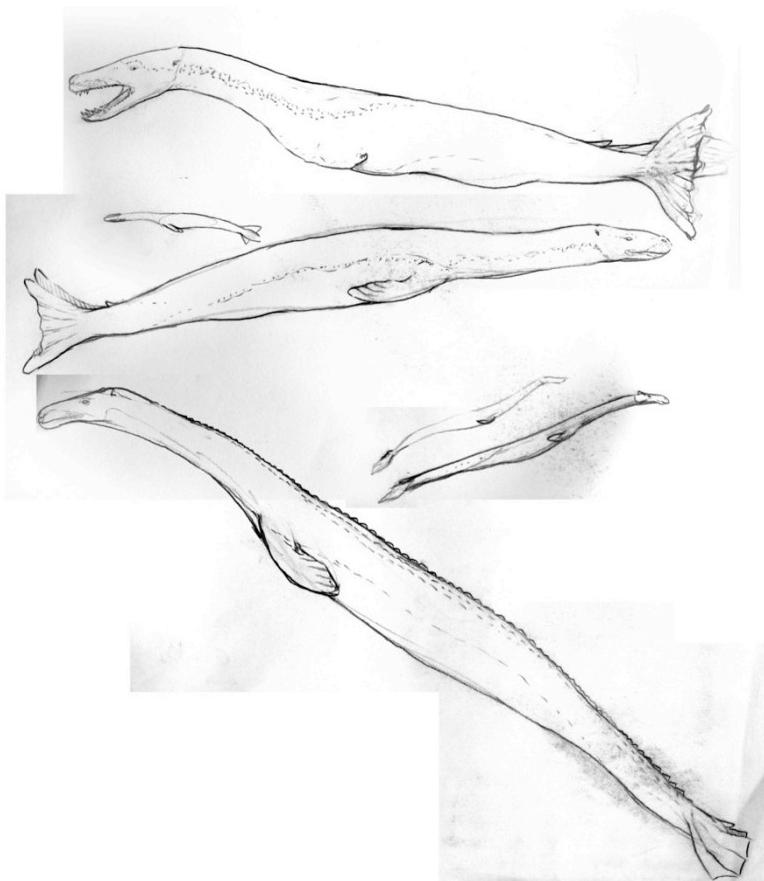
Sketches of surreal figures for a mural project.



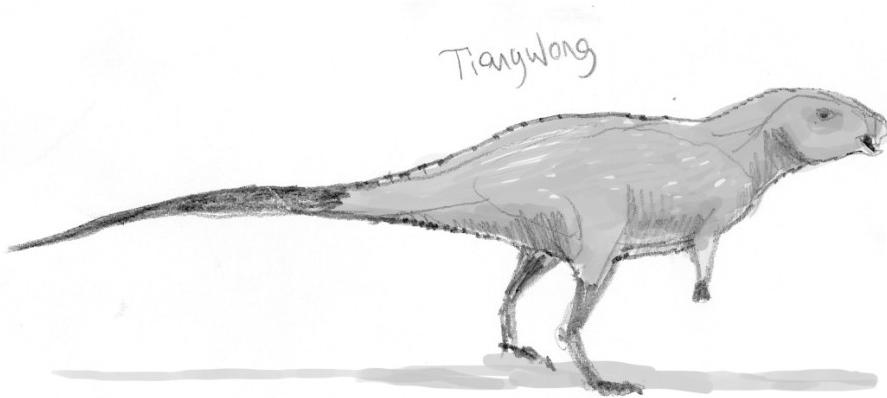
Pencil and watercolour sketches of giant quasi-avian creatures.



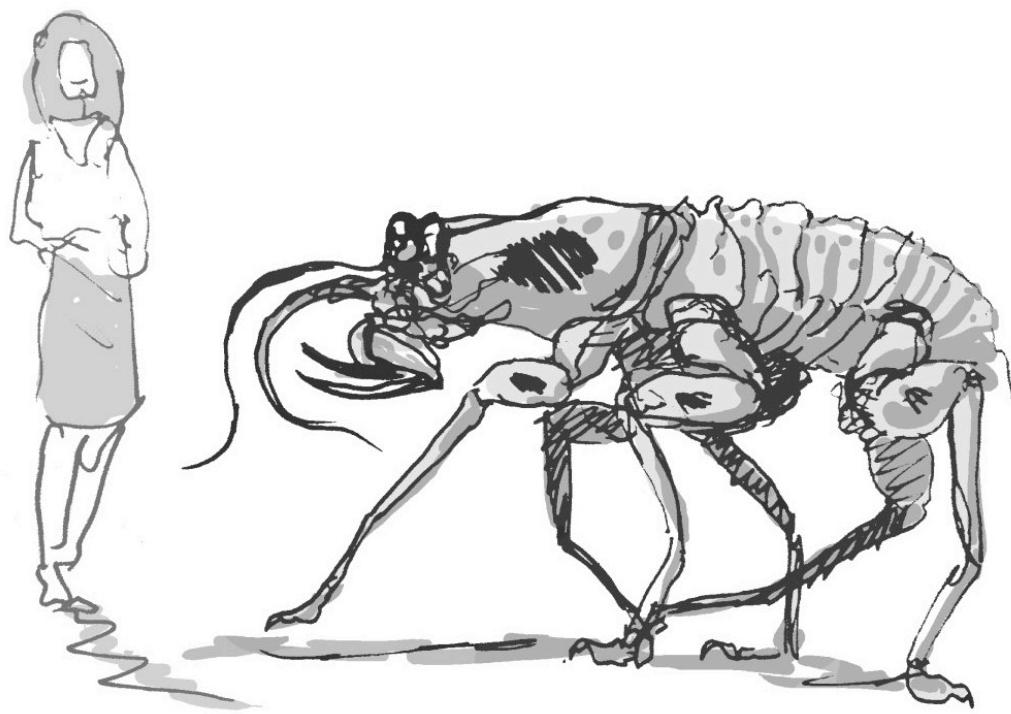
Attack by a malevolent spider.



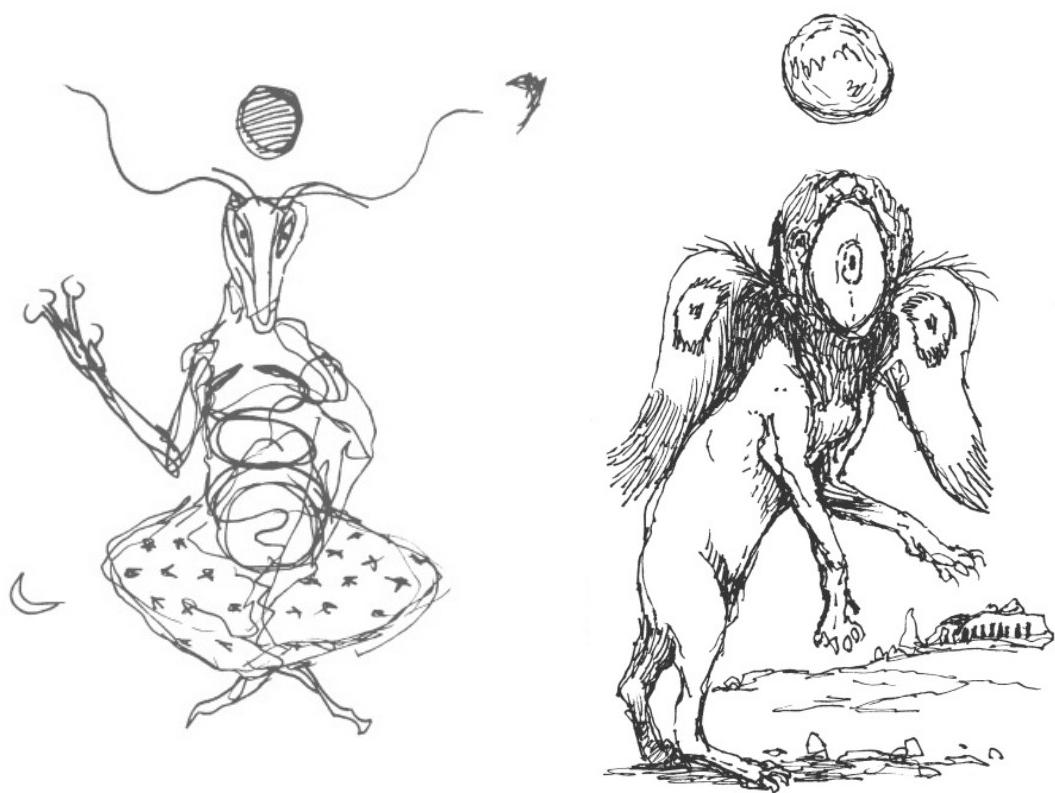
Sketches of seal-like marine cryptids, from top to bottom; the *tizheruk*, the *long-necked seal*, and the gigantic *Cadborosaurus*.



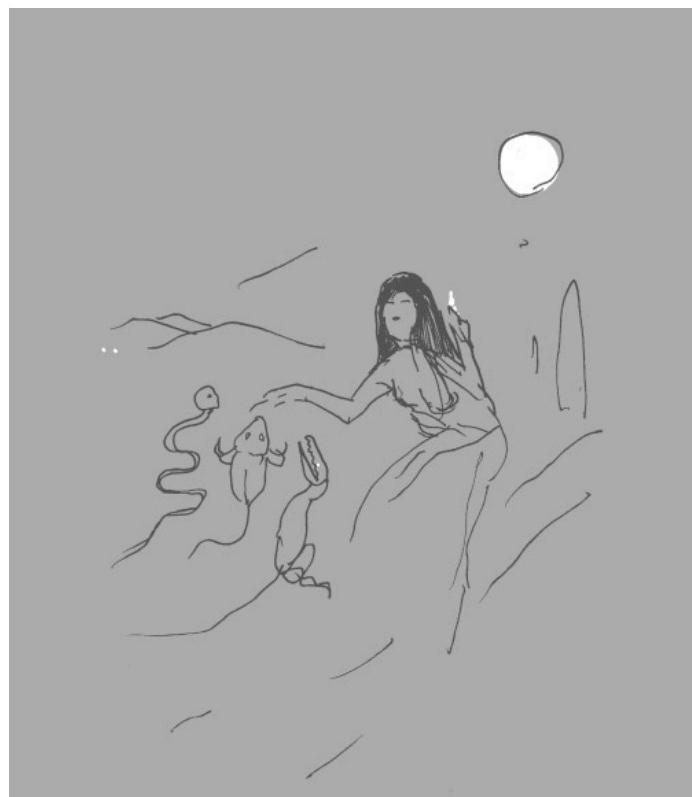
Sketch of the “furry” plant-eating dinosaur *Tianyulong*. I don’t understand why aspiring palaeoartists reconstruct integument-bearing dinosaurs with <exactly> the same type & alignment of fibres found on the fossil. Doubtless the fossils preserve only a part of the integument, and these things were much, much chunkier in real life.



Sketch of a giant land animal that evolved from a mantis shrimp.



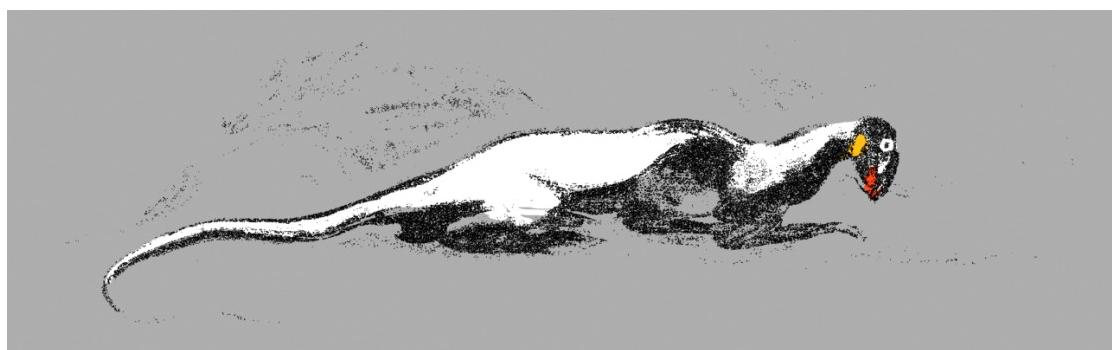
Two sketches of surreal beings.



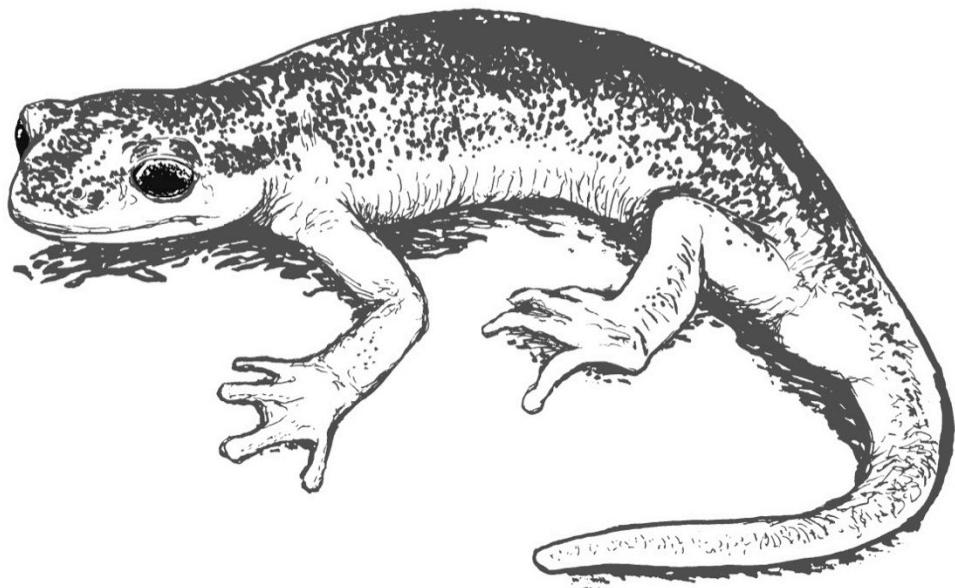
Sketch of a witch and familiars.



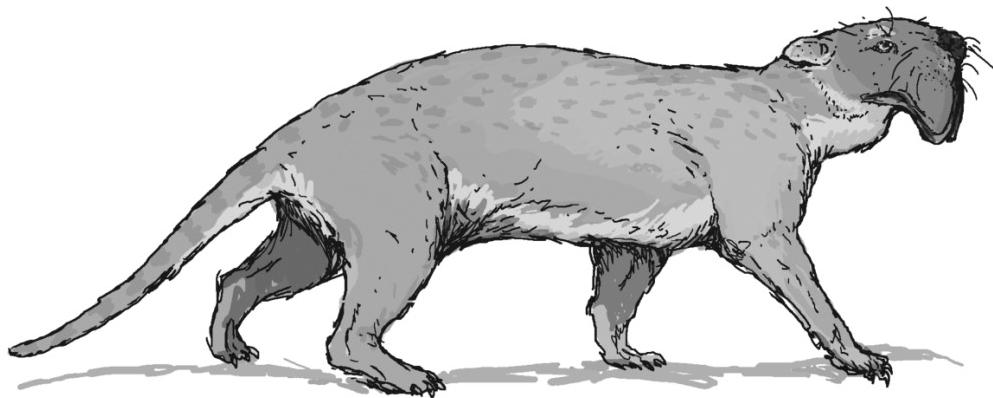
Watercolour sketches of frivolous spirit creatures.



Sketch of a "panther-reptile" type of spirit creature.

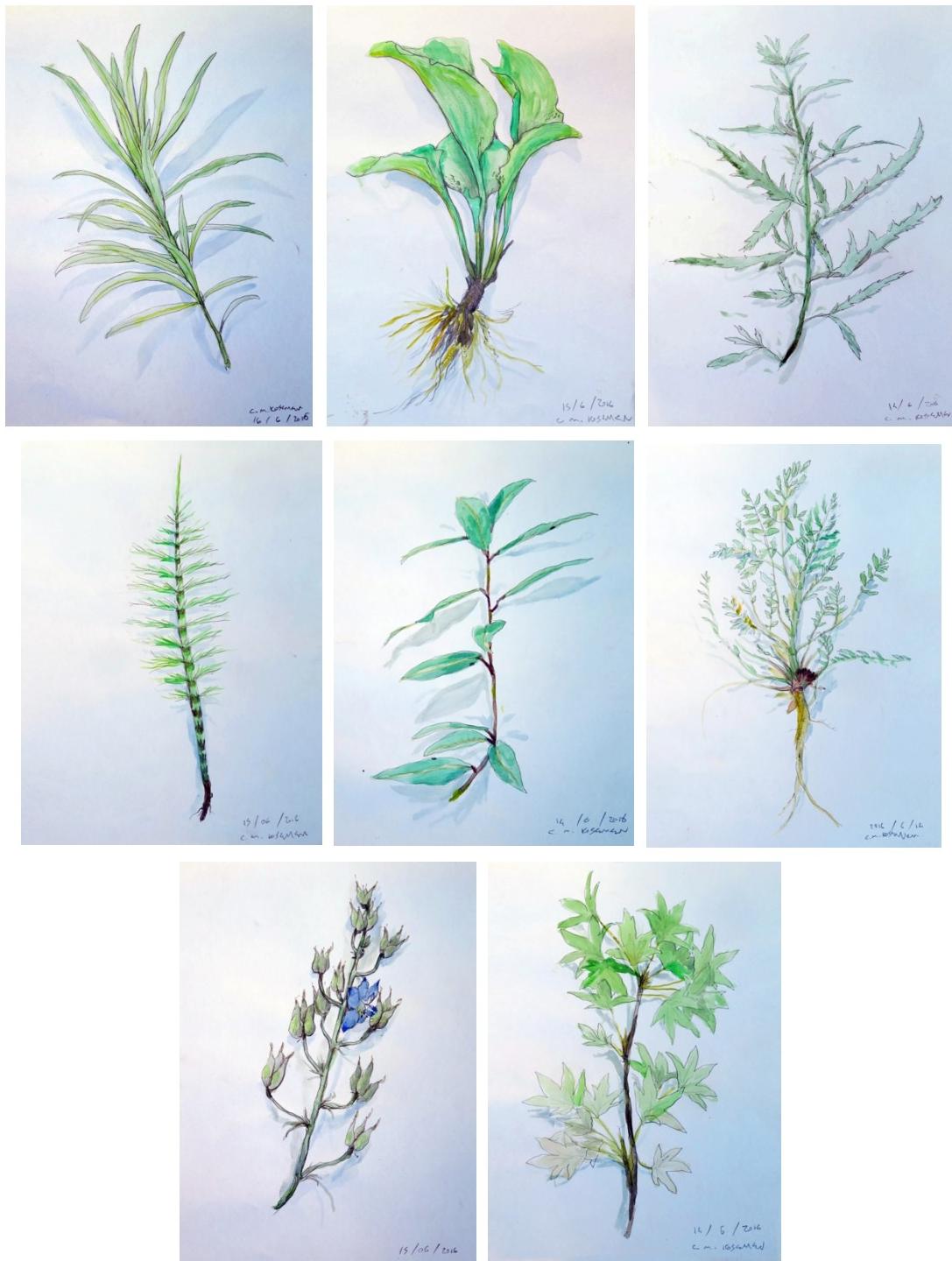


Ink study of the Lycian salamander, *Lyciasalamandra atifi*.



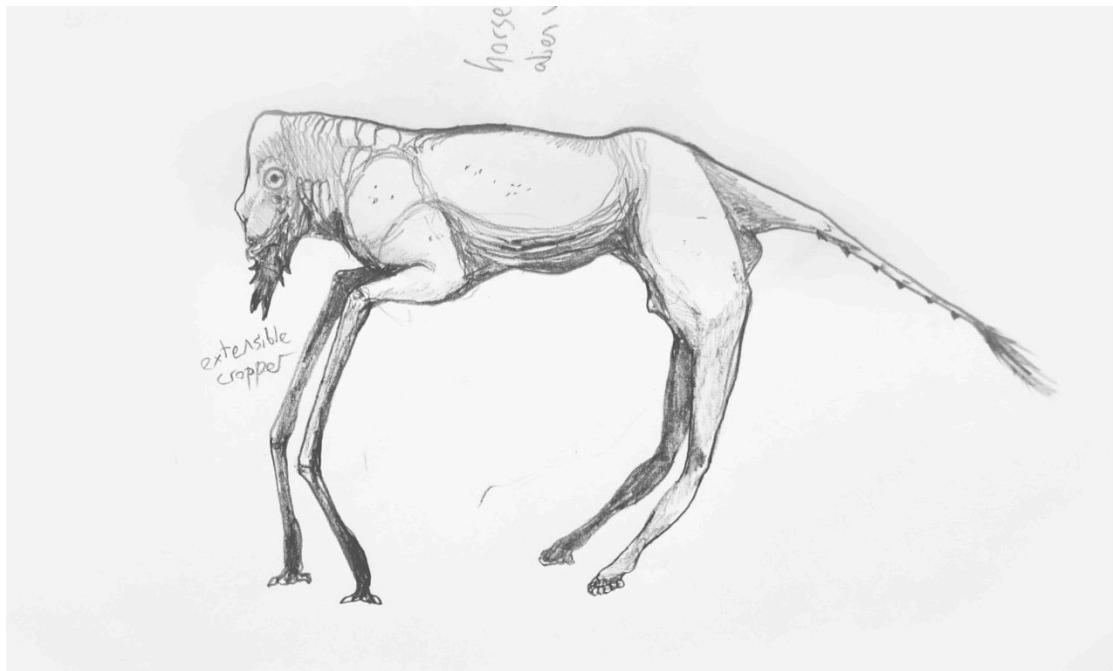
The extent of lip and gum tissue covering the teeth of famous “sabre-toothed” prehistoric animals has often been debated. This sketch shows the sabre-toothed marsupial *Thylacosmilus* with a full stretch of lips completely covering its teeth.

ALTERNATE LIFE:  
From the Online Sketchbooks of C. M. Kosemen

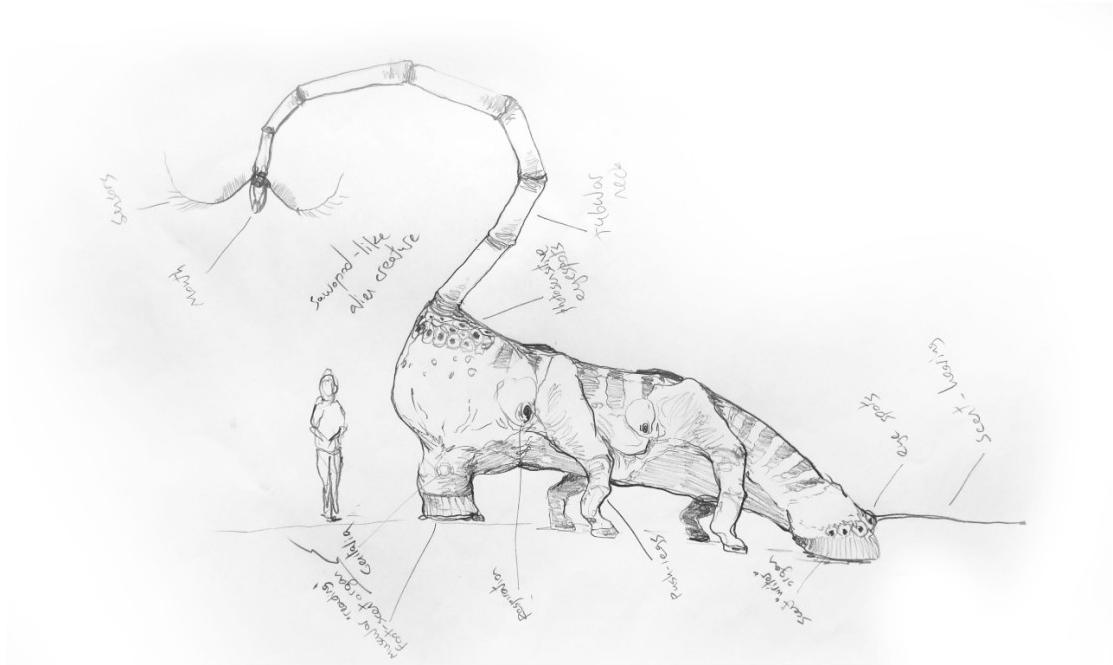


Sketches of plants found in sweetgum (*Liquidambar sp.*) groves in South-Western Turkey.

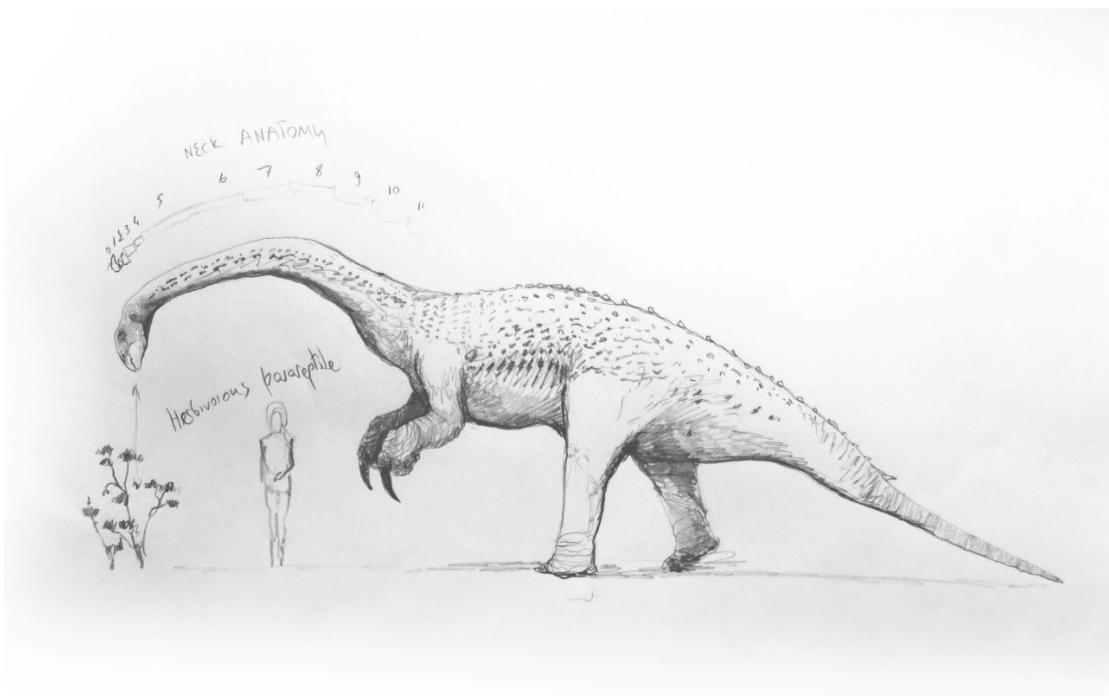
ALTERNATE LIFE:  
From the Online Sketchbooks of C. M. Kosemen



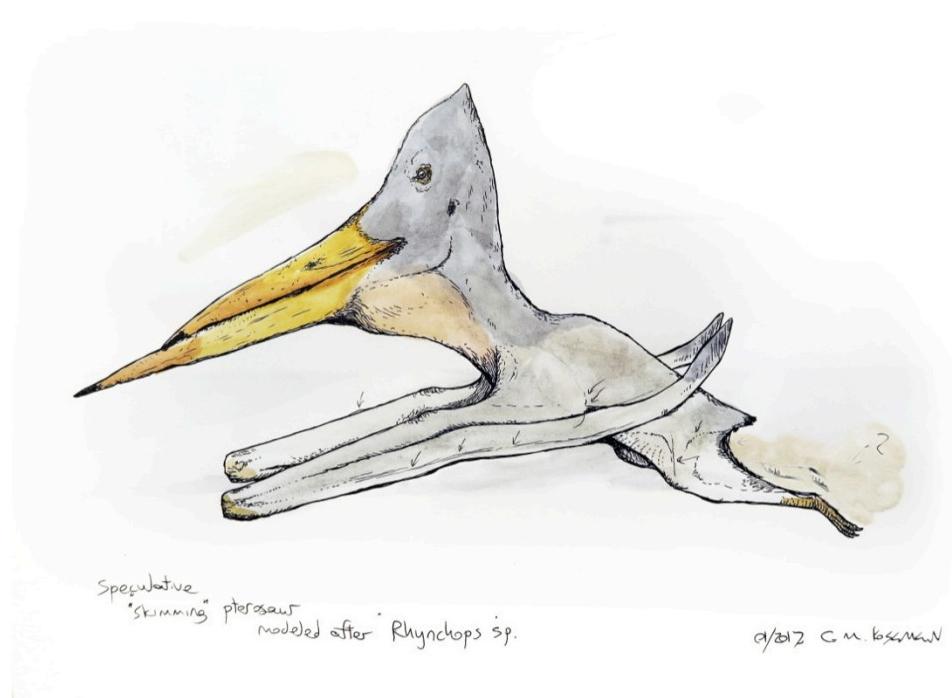
Sketch of a horse-like alien creature.



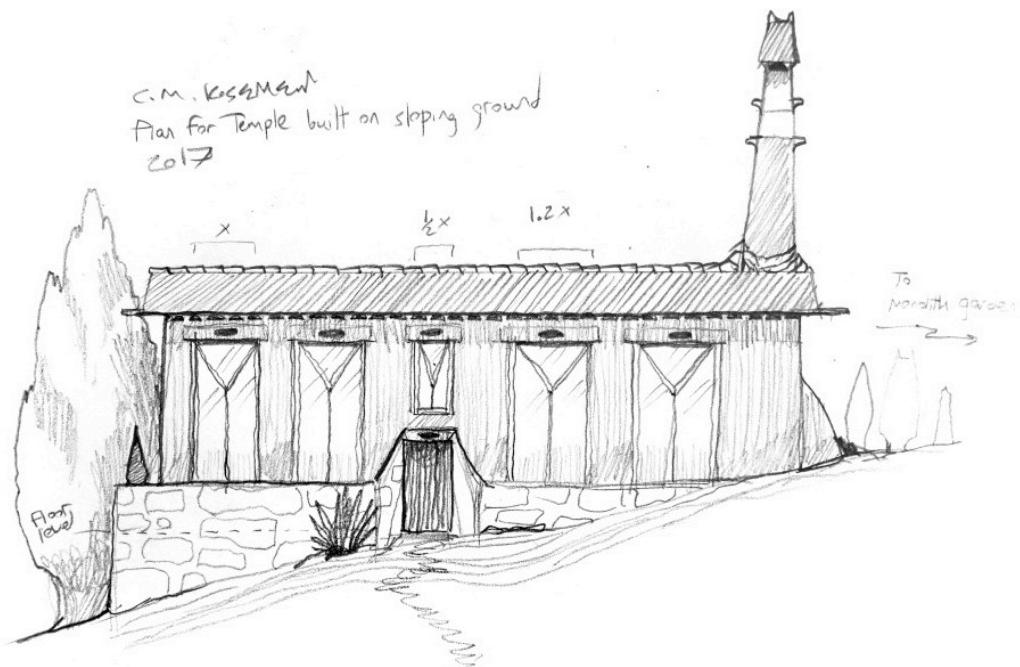
Sketch of a giant alien herbivore animal.



Sketches of two herbivorous “parareptile” creatures.



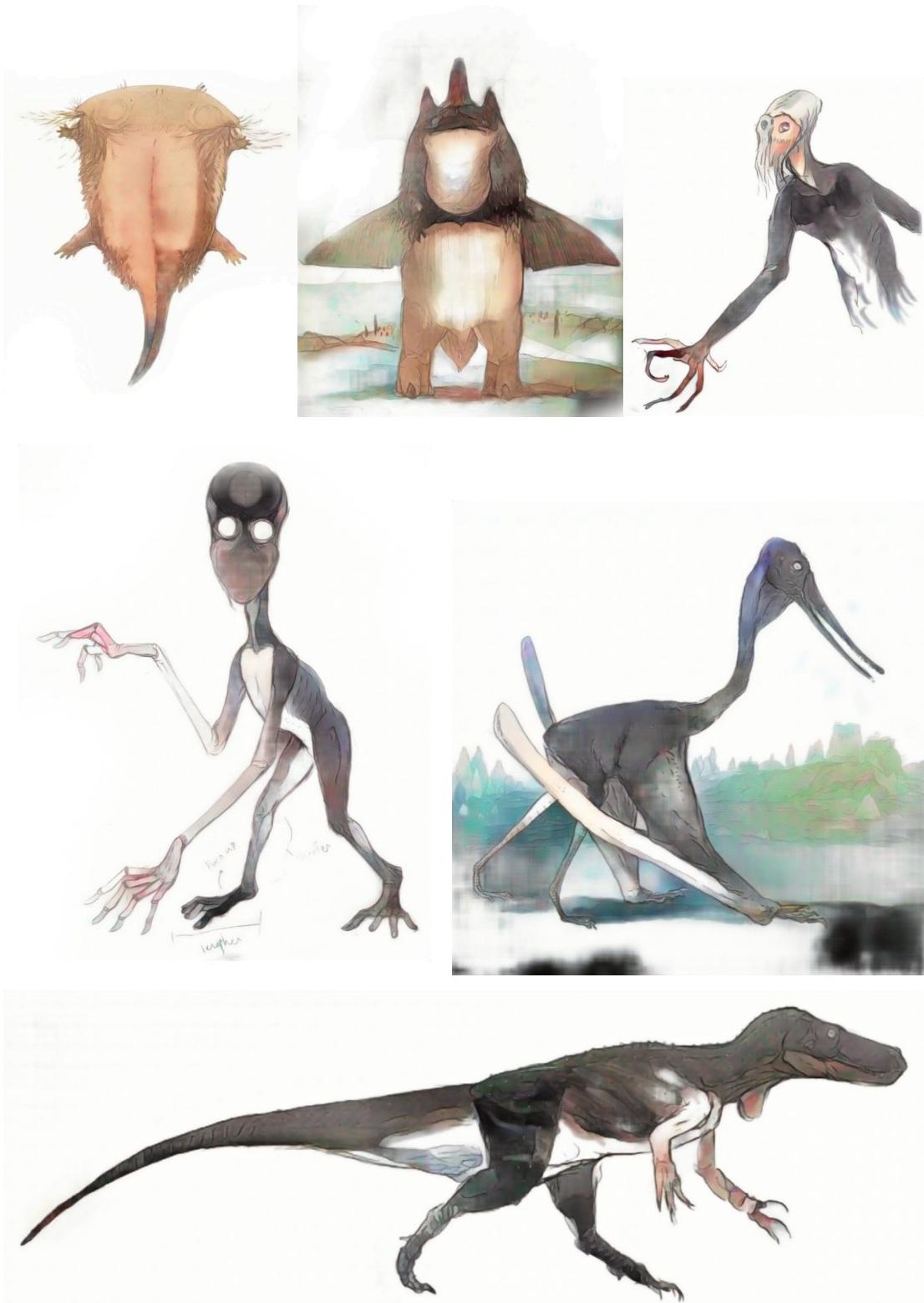
Pen and watercolour sketch of a speculative pterosaur that has adapted for a “skimming” lifestyle. An exercise in speculative evolution.



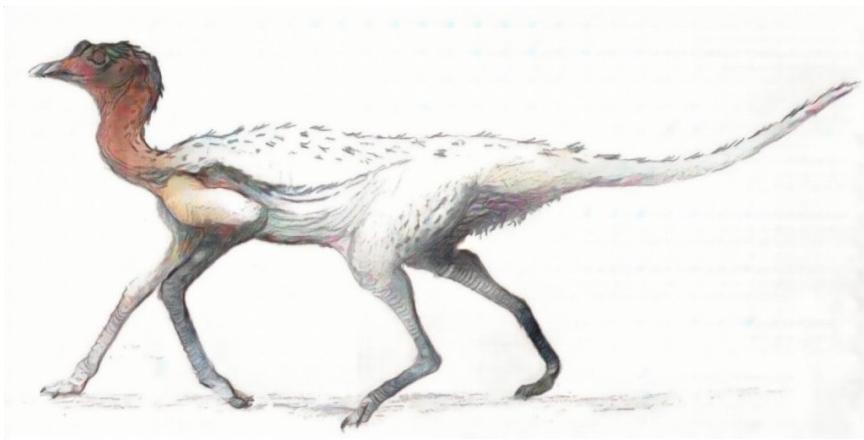
Architectural sketch of a small, well-lit temple built on sloping ground.



A selection of my sketches, automatically colourised by the “Paintschainer” A.I. program.



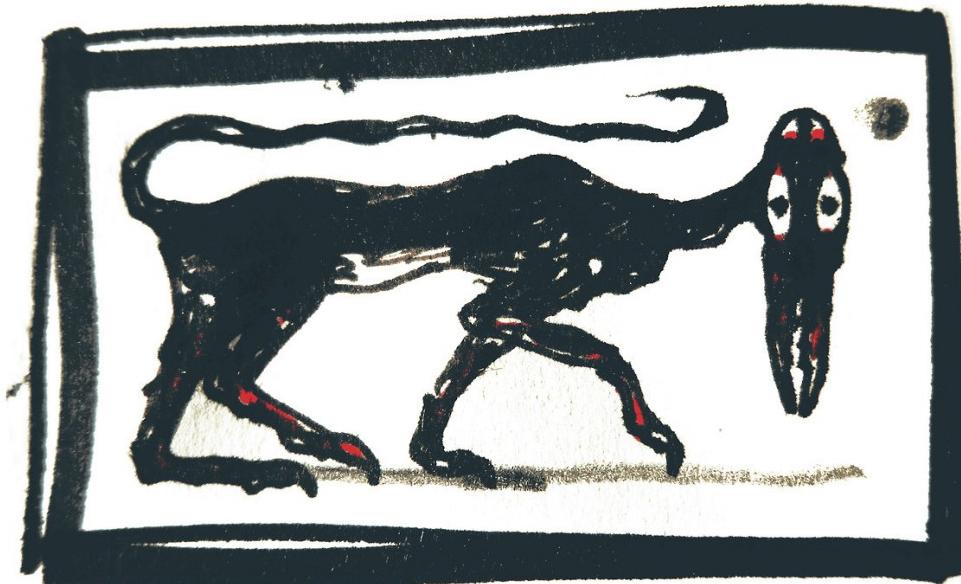
A selection of my sketches, automatically colourised by the “Paintschainer” A.I. program.



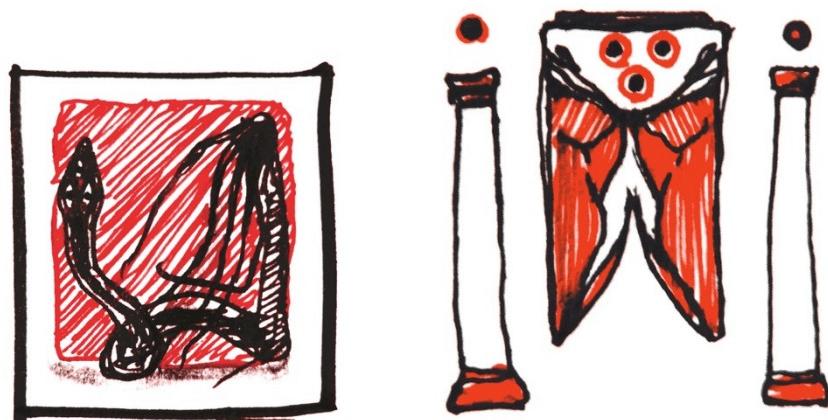
A selection of my sketches, automatically colourised by the “Paintschainer” A.I. program.



Colourised sketch of a *Kahydrone* creature, from *Snaiad*, my project about the natural history of an alien planet.



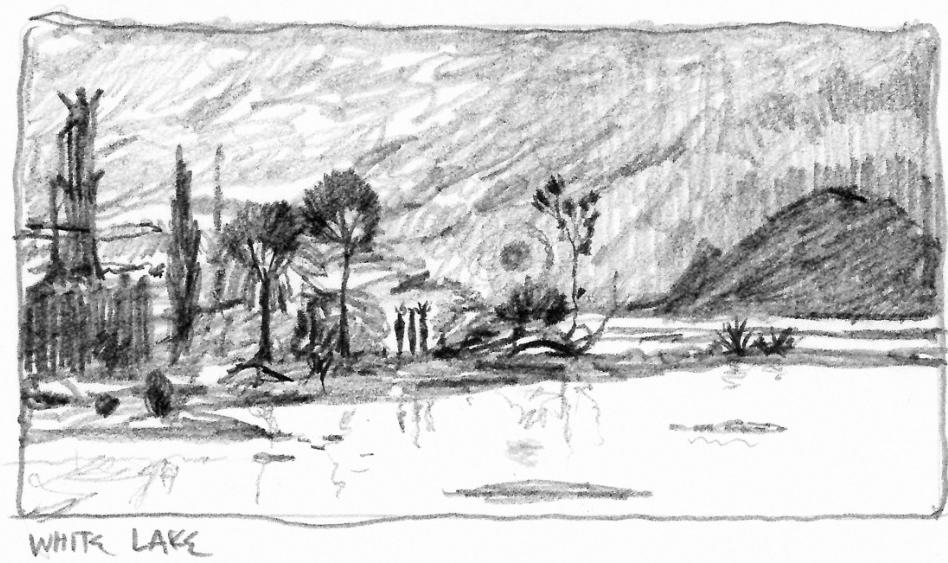
Sketch of a surreal, demonic figure.



Two surreal sketches.



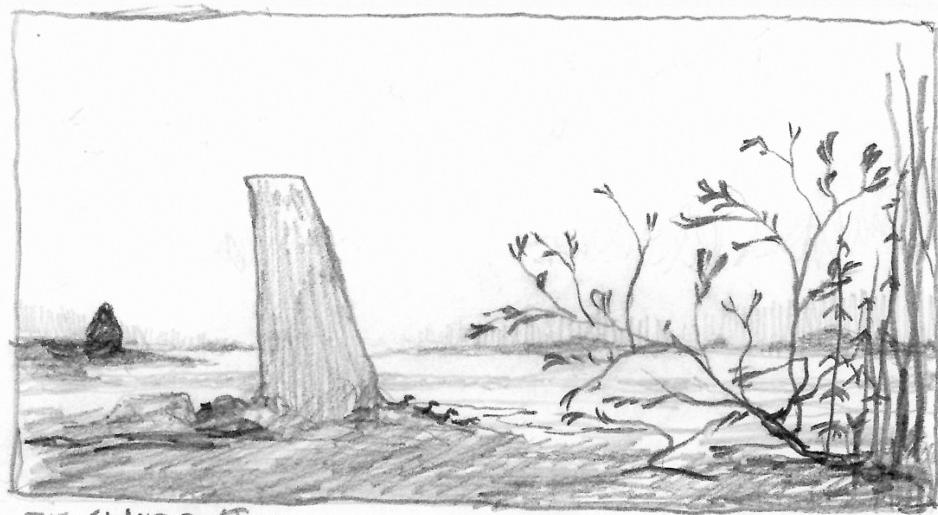
Sketch of a girl and an insectoid demon.



WHITE LAKE



INTERLOPERS



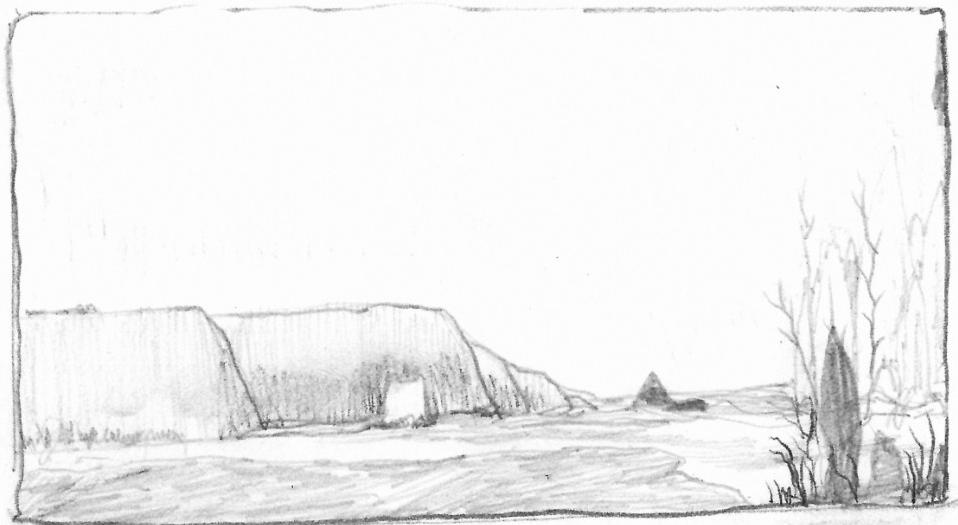
THE SLANTED STONE



FACING THE PROTECTOR

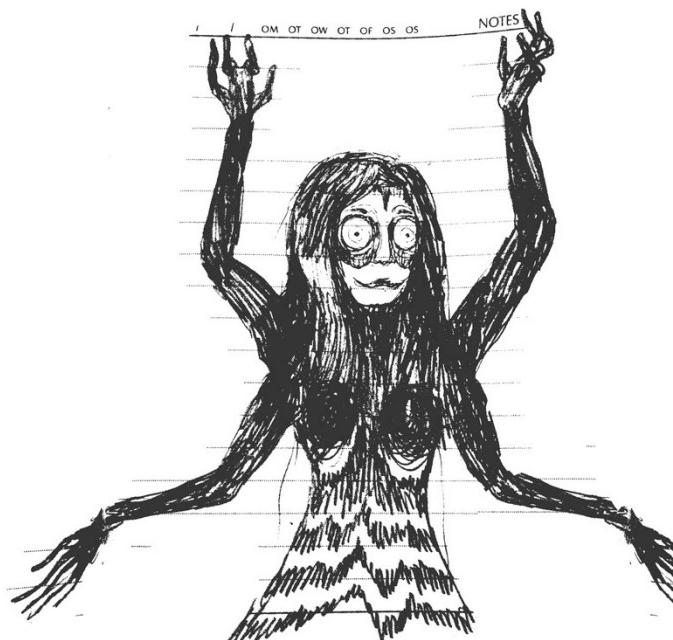


MOUNT HYÉLEPÂÏS

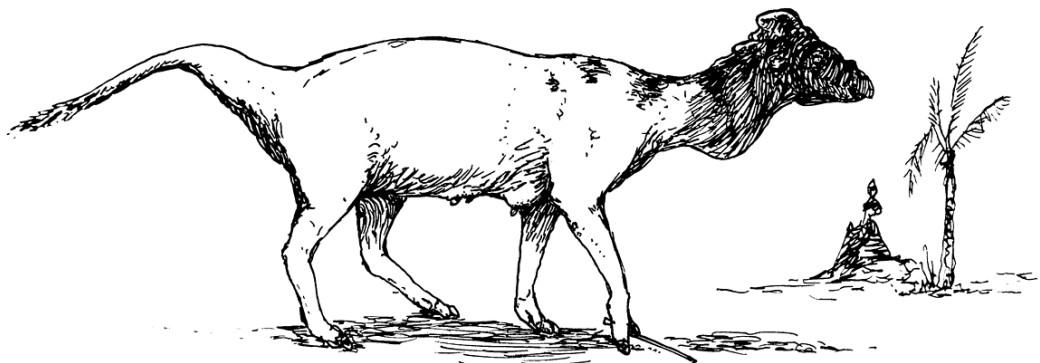


WHITE SHRINE

Landscape sketches, a series of faux-movie-like “storyboard drawings.” Obviously there is no story here, but it’s mysterious and fun to invent one around these images.



Sketch of an arachnid female demon.



Sketch of a goat-like animal with opposable thumbs.



A spontaneous sketch with surreal elements.

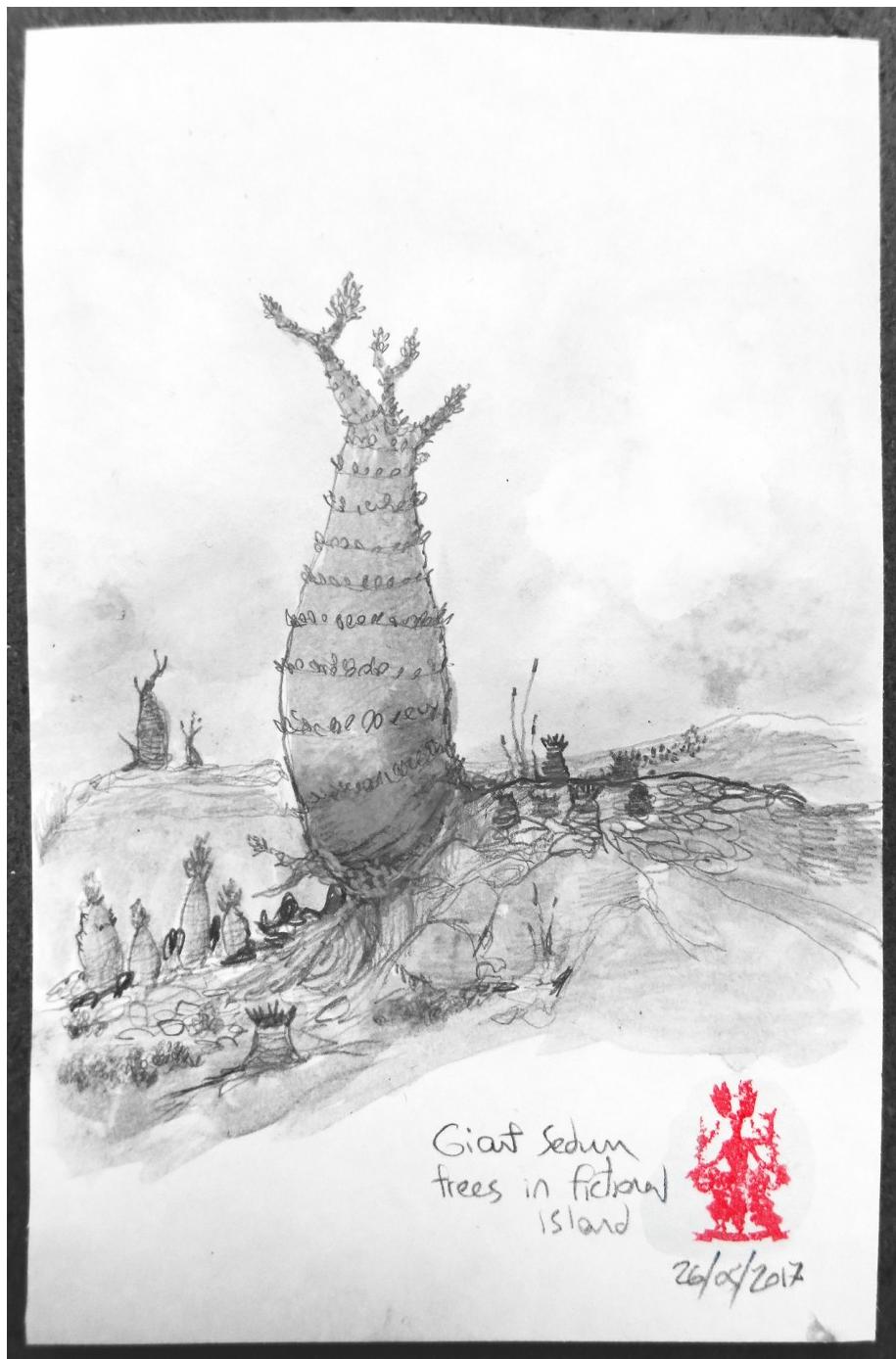


Sketch of a surreal being striding across a meadow.



Sketch of a seductive hexapod lady and a beaked monolith.

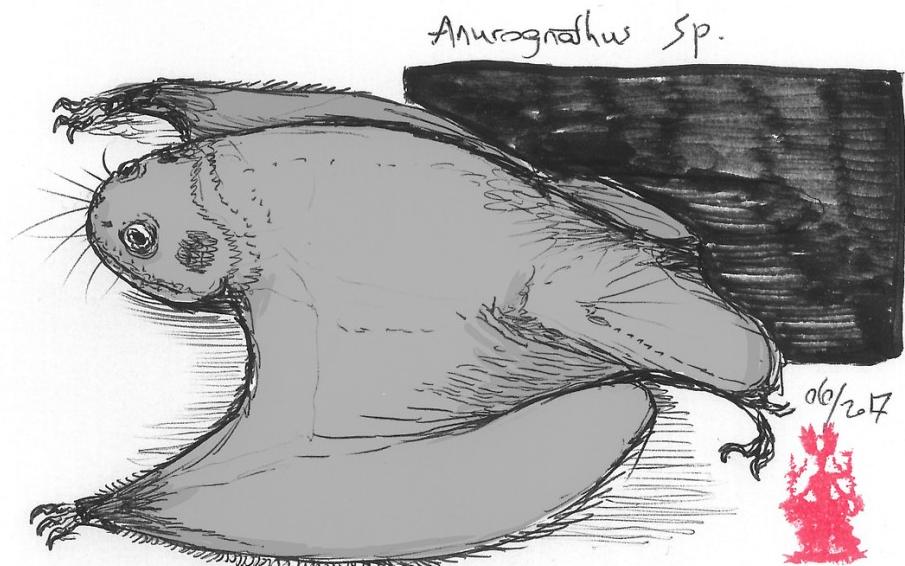
C.M. KOSEMEN  
2017



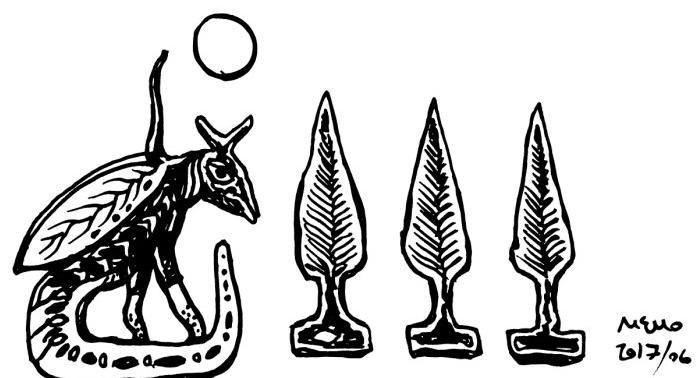
Sketch of a tree-like plant derived from the humble stonecrop, *Sedum sp.* I noticed that *Sedum* and allied plants had segmented, repeating body plans, so I increased the width of individual segments to attain a pillar-like, arboriform structure.



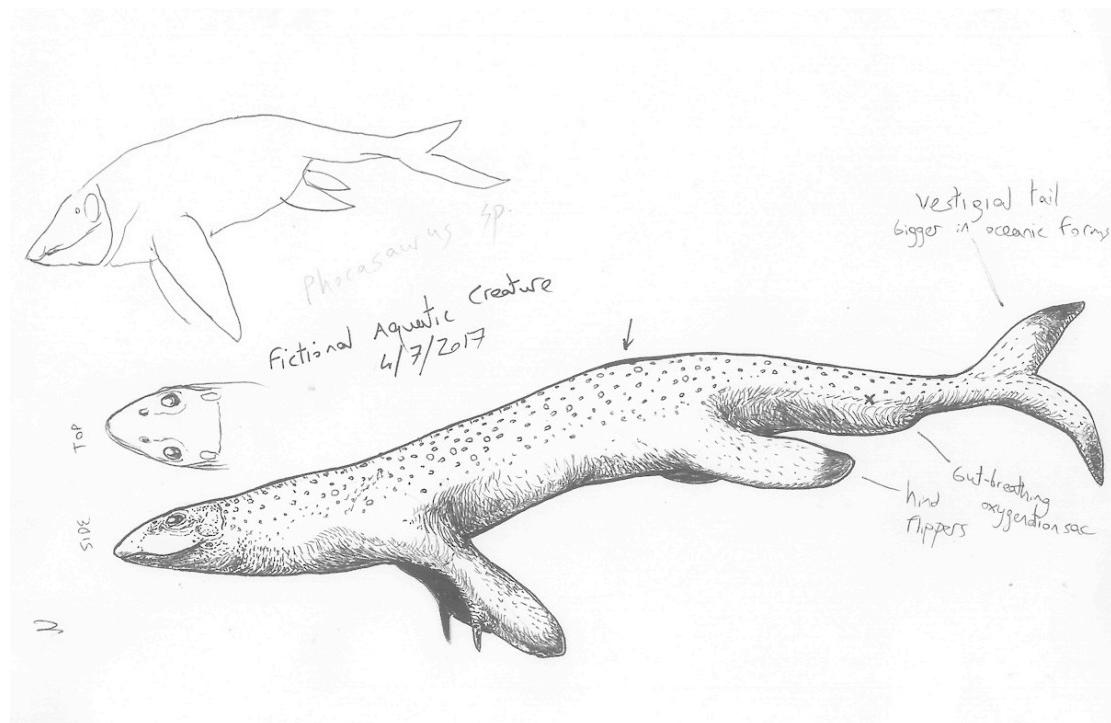
Digital sketches of four quasi-human ladies.



Sketch of *Anurognathus*, a tiny, prehistoric flying reptile.



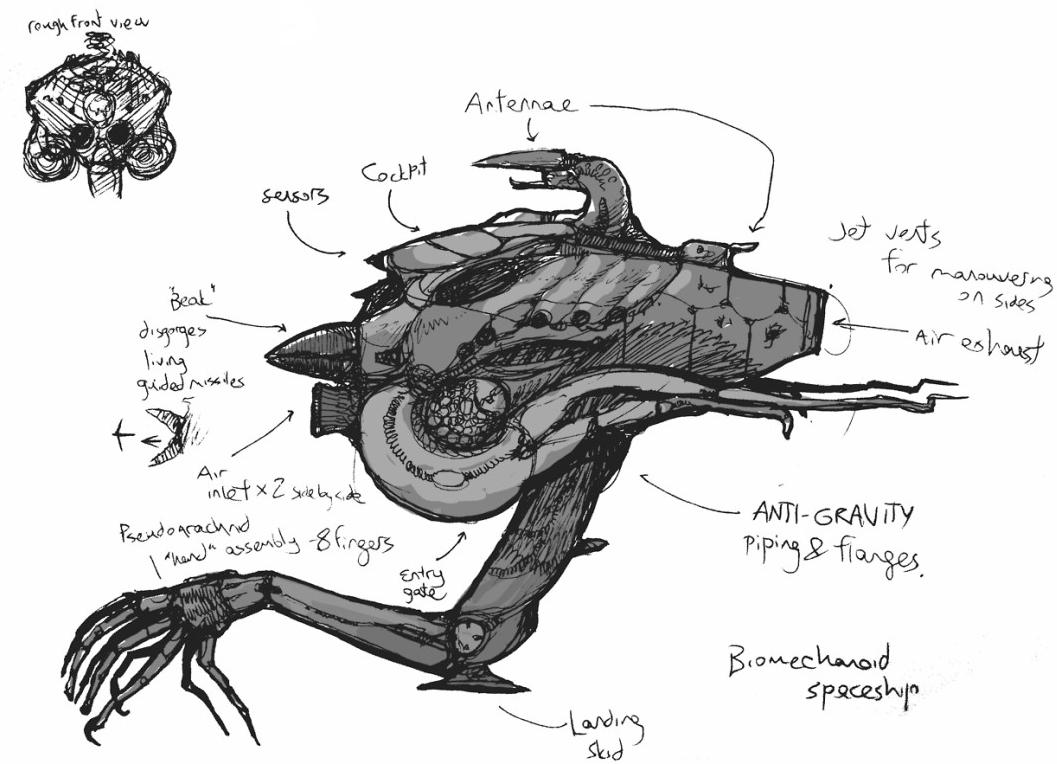
Three free-form sketches of surreal beings.



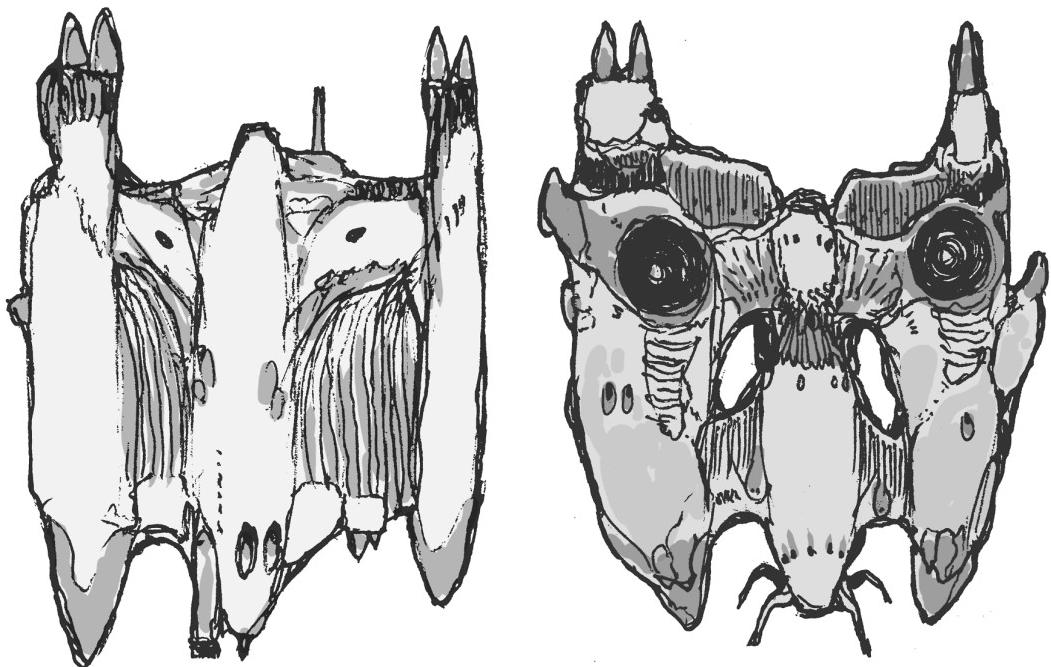
Sketch of a reptilian seal.

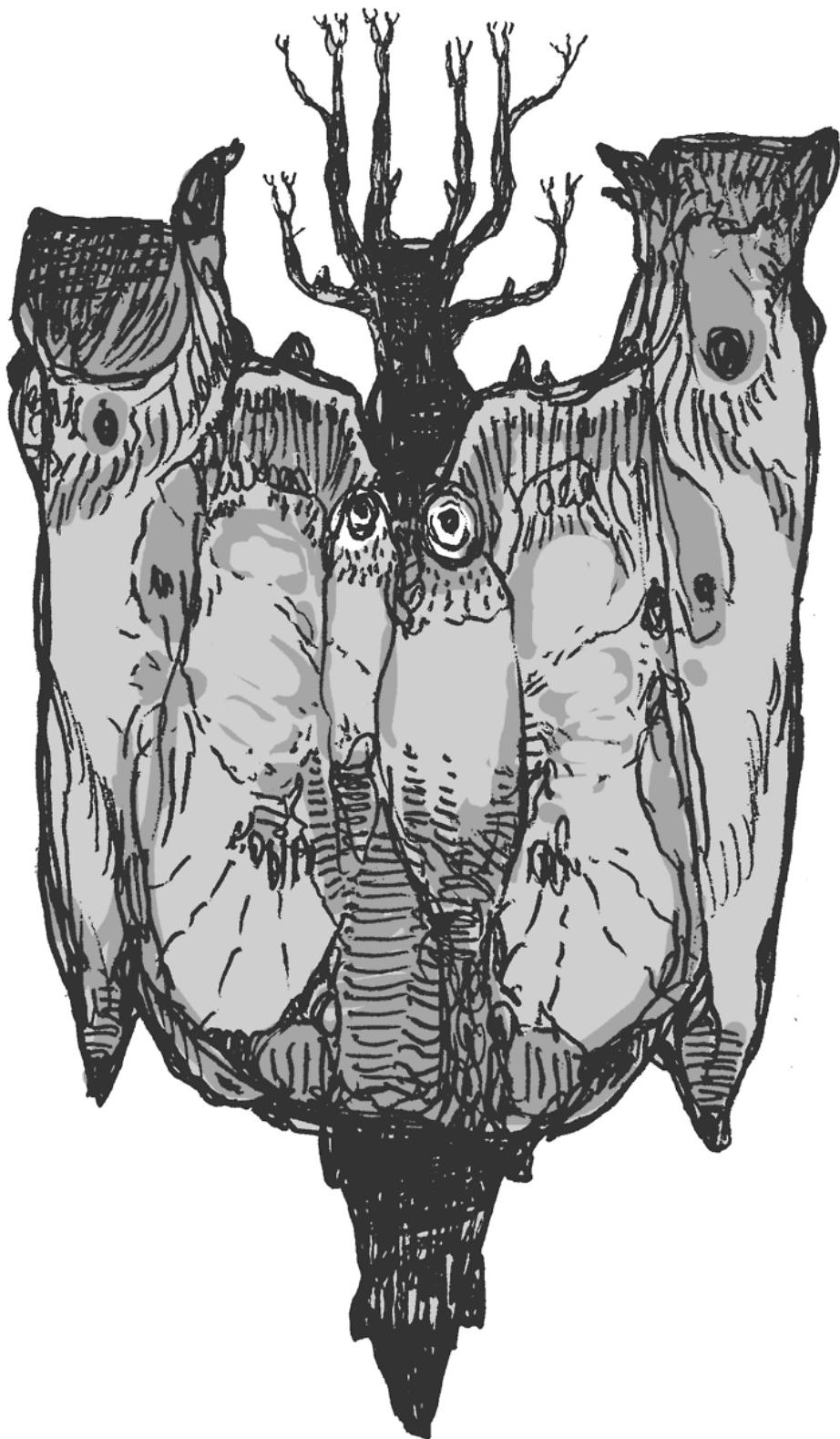


Sketch of a surreal scene, based on the *Alien* and *Prometheus* film series.

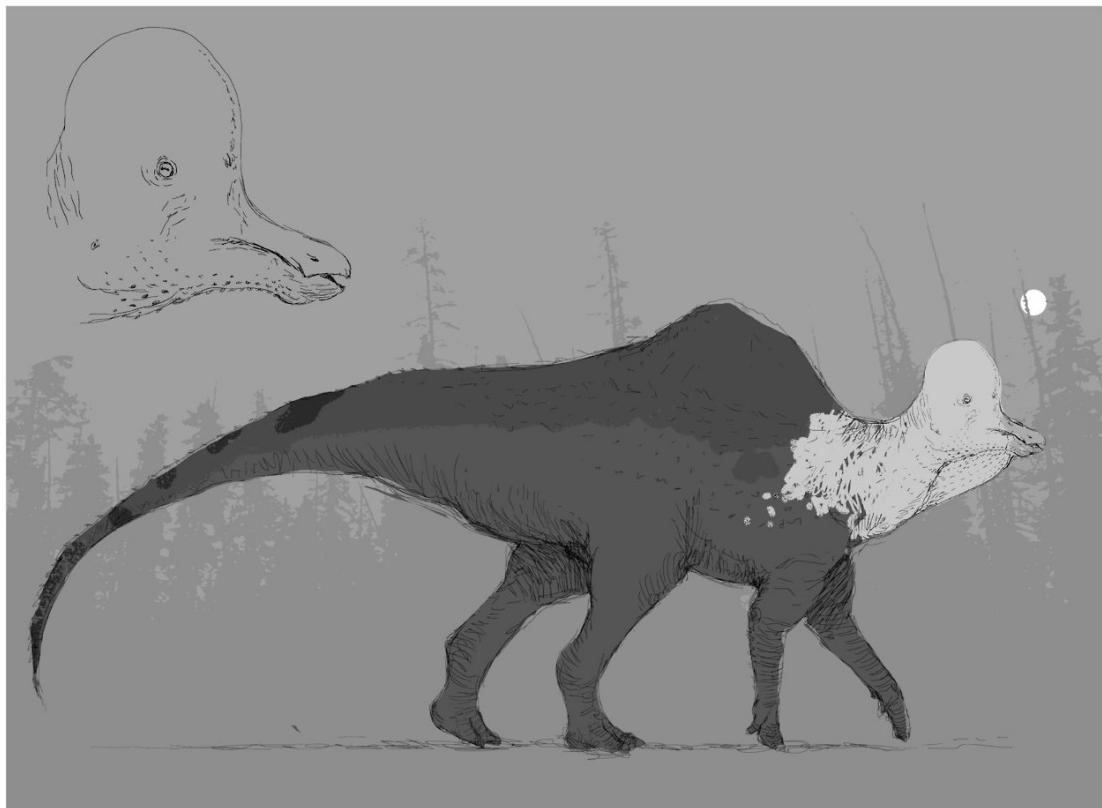


Sketches of biomechanical spaceships, homage to the work of H. R. Giger.

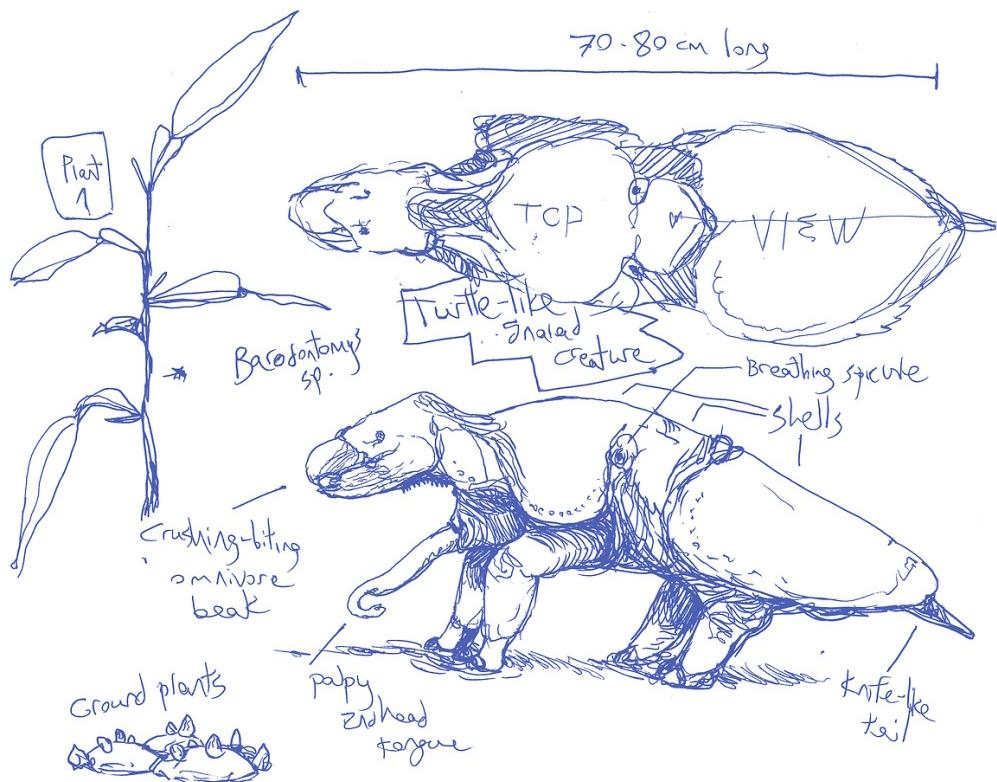




Sketch of a biomechanical spaceship, homage to the work of H. R. Giger.



Sketch of the duck-billed dinosaur *Corythosaurus*, restored with a speculative back hump.

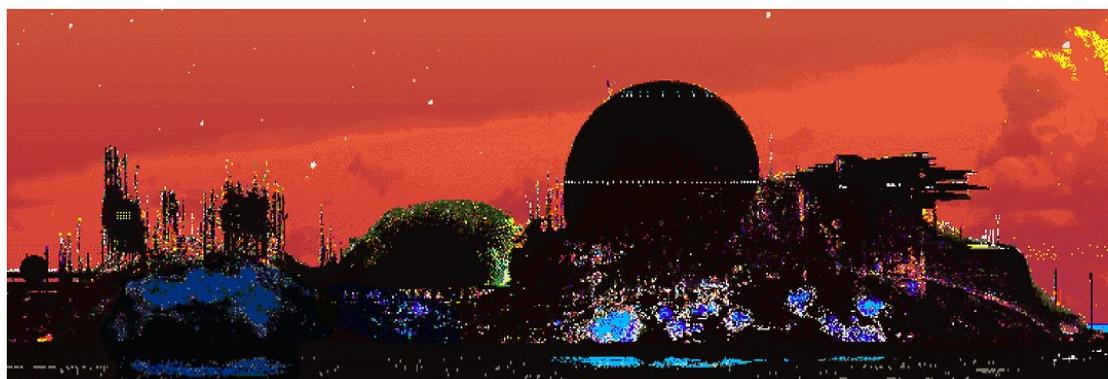
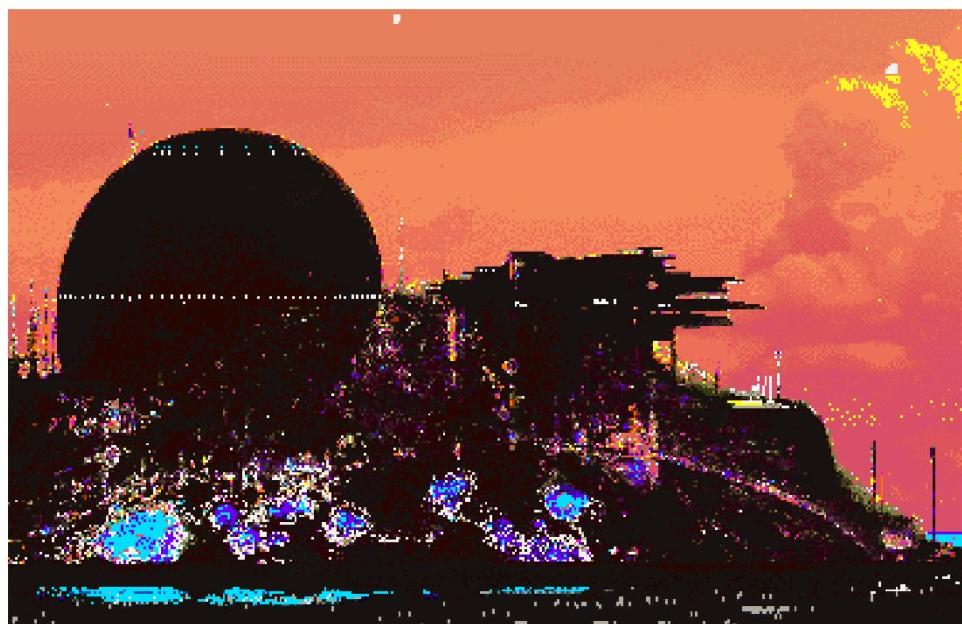


Sketch of *Barodontomys*, a fictional alien species from the planet Snaiad.



Refined composite sketch of *Barodontomys*, assembled out of the elements on the previous page. Below, sketch of a frivolous “cantina alien”.





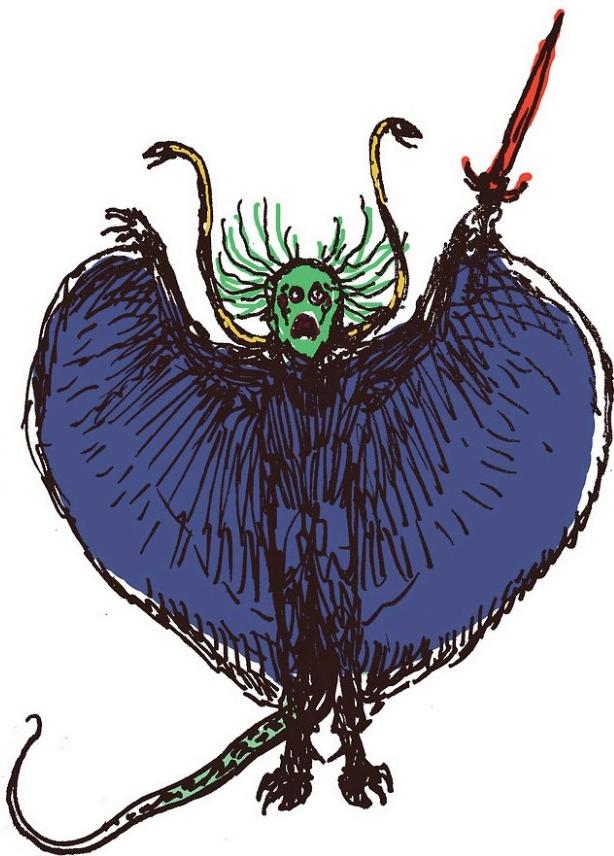
Vandals had smashed the LED display above a local ATM. The attack had strangely beautified the display; instead of vapid campaigns for loans and credit cards; it now showed something like a strange, futuristic city in the glitch. I took a close-up photo and modified it to complete the illusion in full-on DOS-game, pixel-art pastiche. Here is a dark, arcology-ridden city glowing with alien energies and unimaginable secrets.



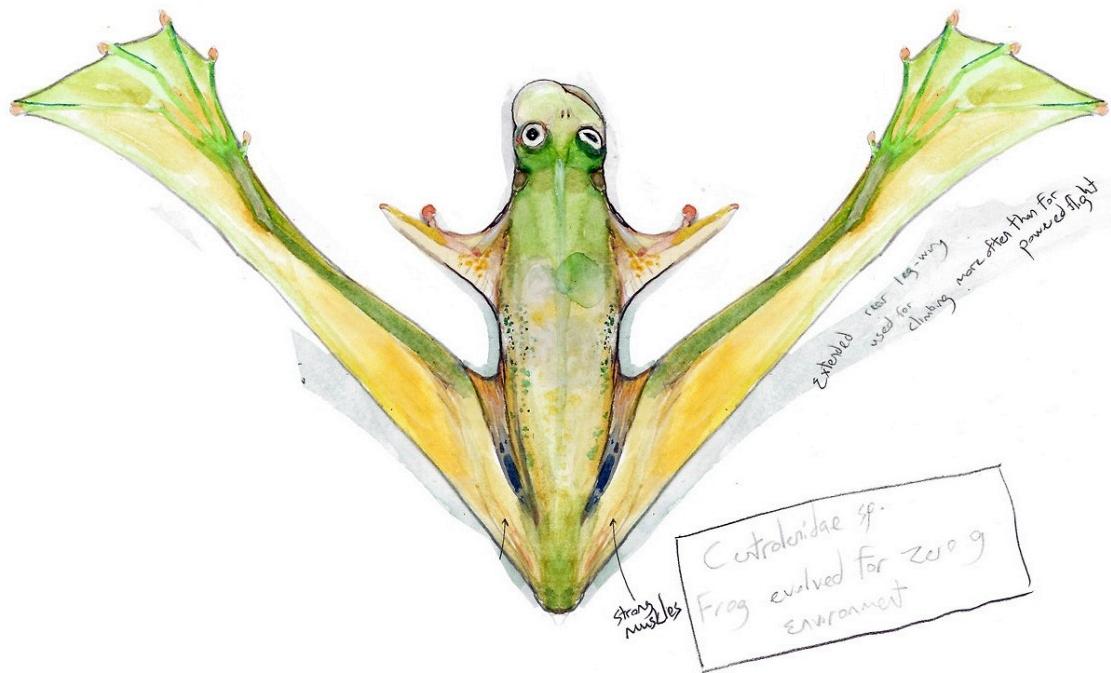
Sketch of a fantastic, hexapedal woman with hooves for nails.



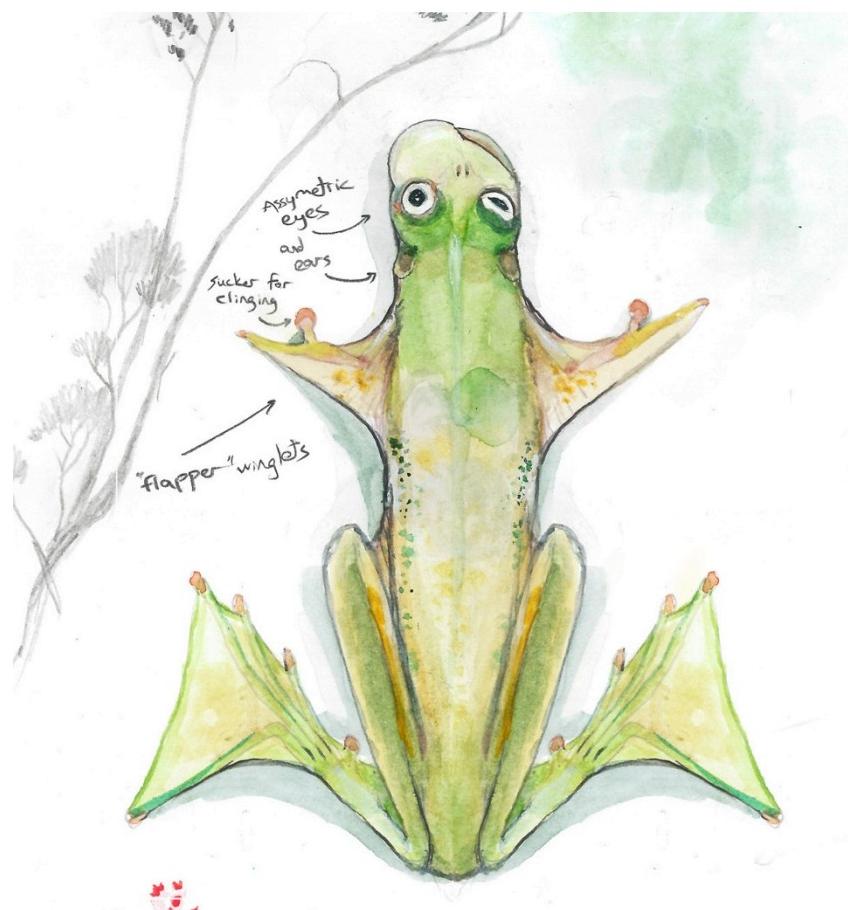
'Snake  
Warrior'  
First drawn  
1992  
C.M.Kosemen

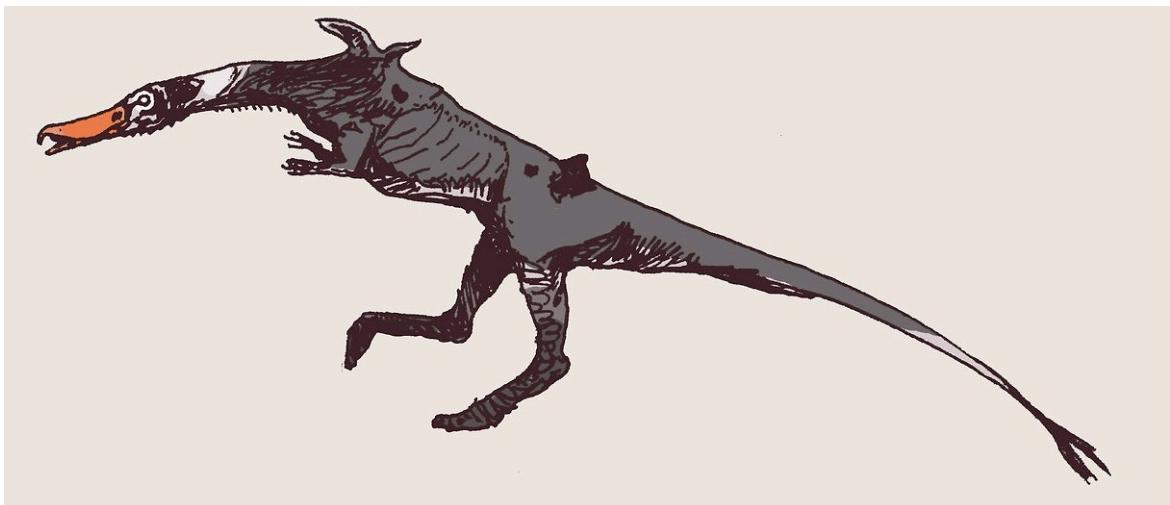


I made up the “*Uçan Savaşçı*” (Flying Warrior) in 1992 to scare my brother at nights. He had bat-like wings; a screaming, bloody, medusa-like face; snakes growing out of his neck; and would fly in and decapitate you with his flaming sword when you fell asleep. 25 years later I drew the “*Uçan Savaşçı*” again, and it is still one of my scariest creations. My 8-year-old self would be proud.

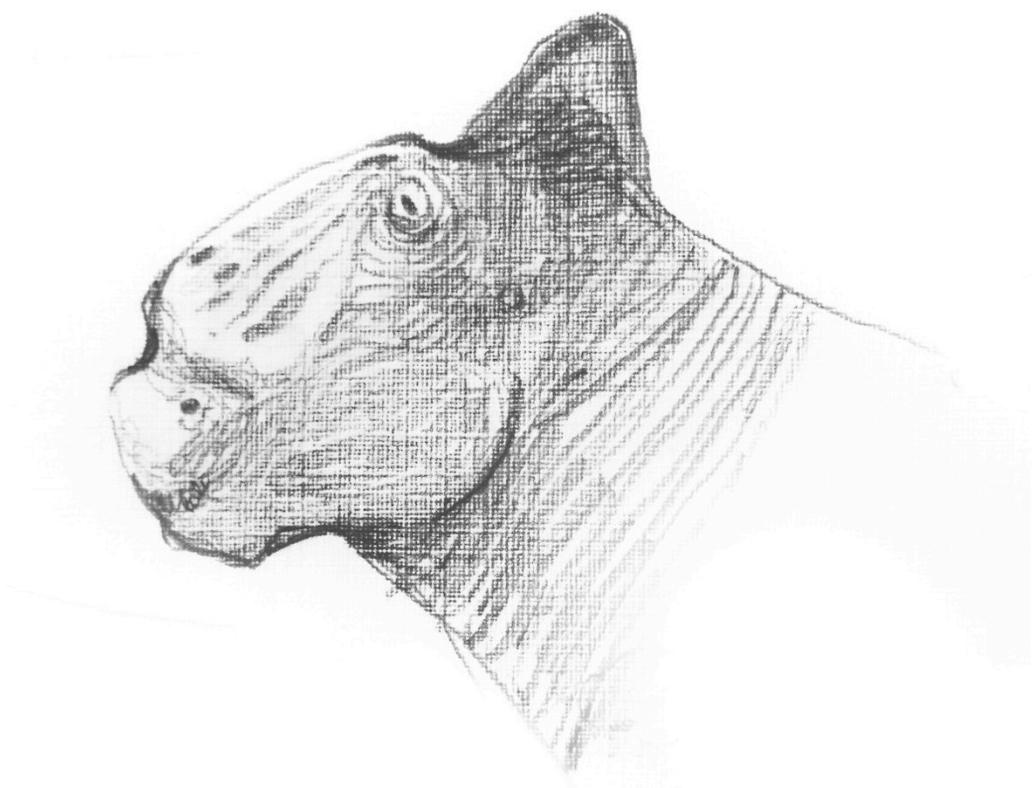
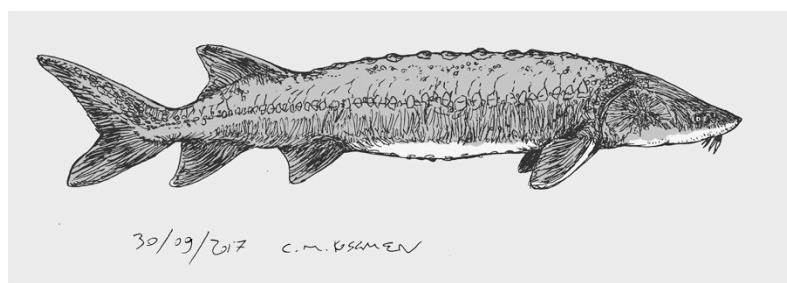


Two views of a lopsided flying-frog (*Assymetrophryne mutatis*) that evolved after ordinary treefrogs were transplanted to a giant zero-gravity biosphere aboard an orbital space station. This, obviously, is not a real creature.

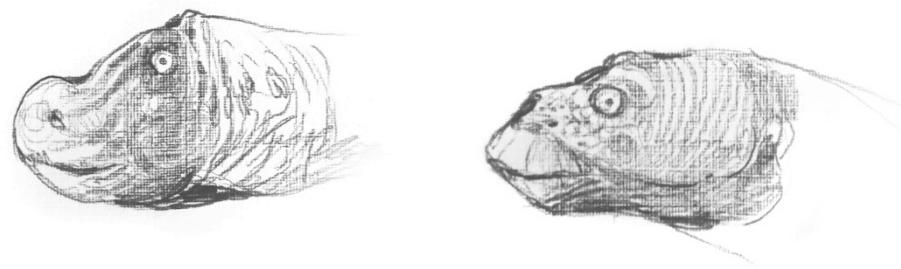
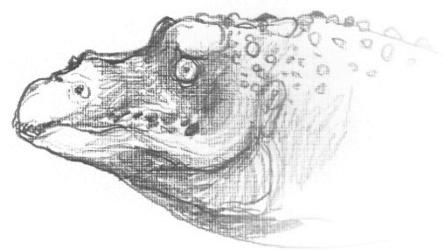
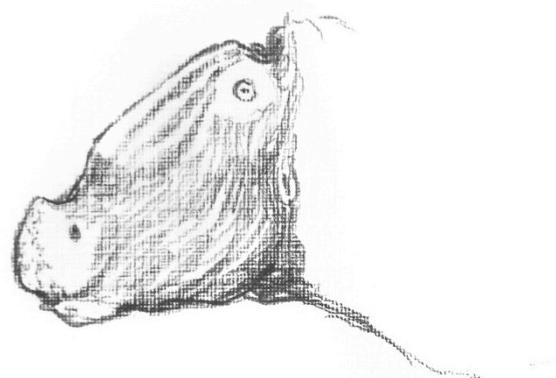
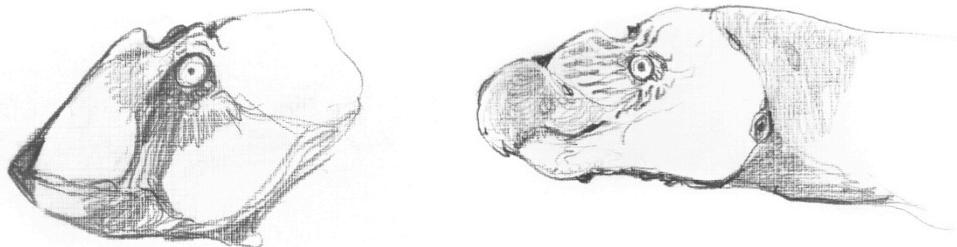




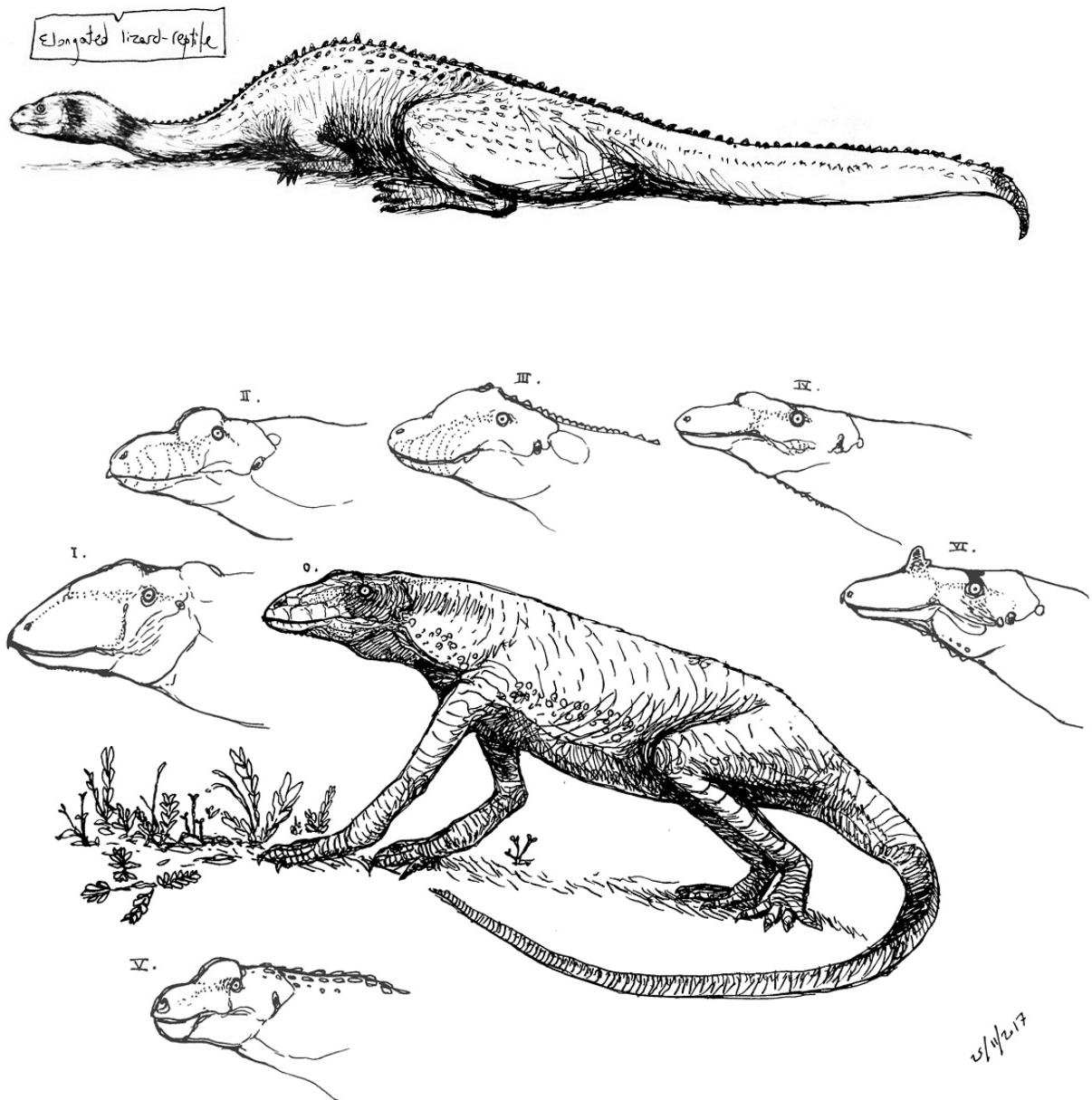
Sketch of a dinosaur-like creature. Below, sketch of a sturgeon, *Acipenser brevirostrum*.



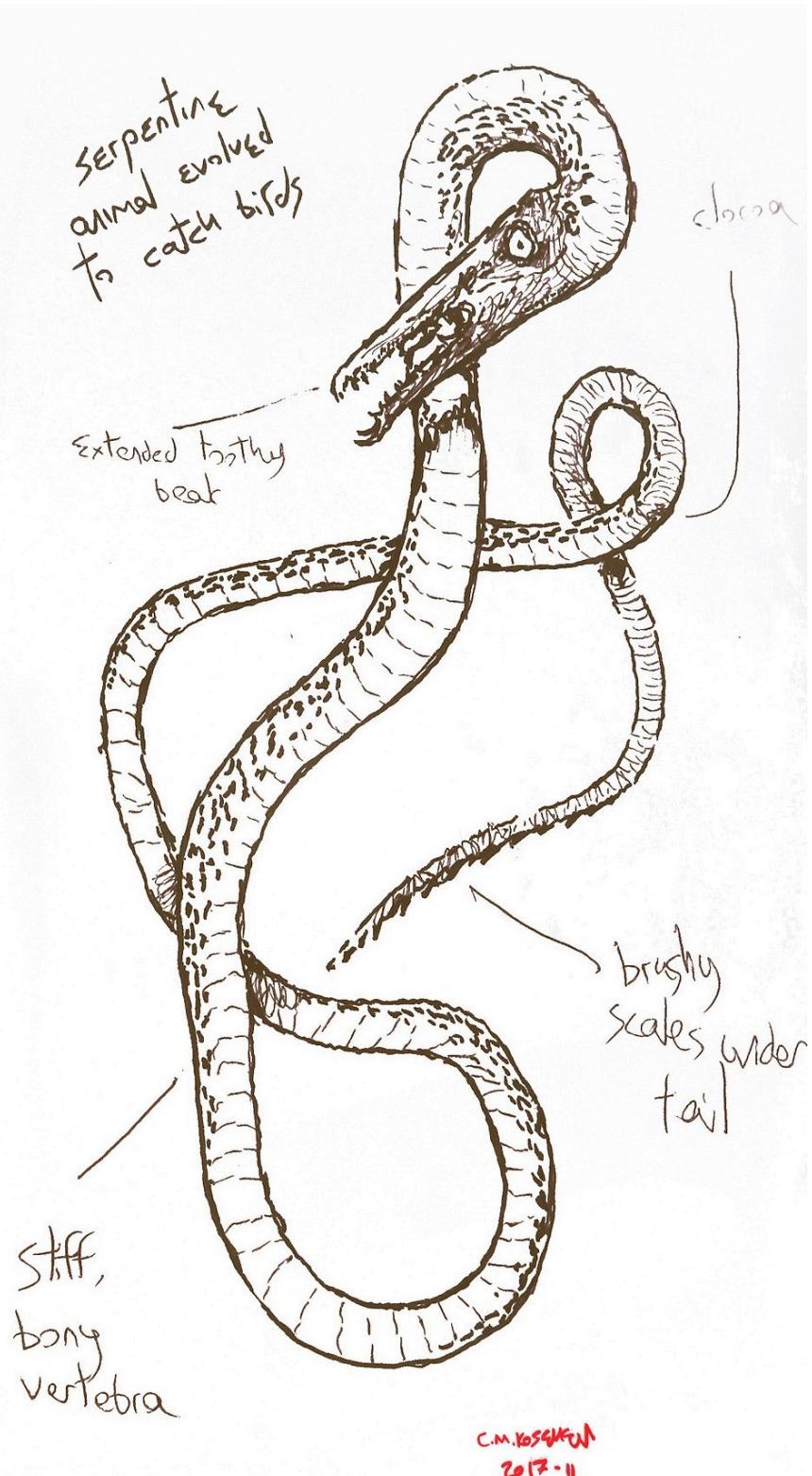
Sketch of a quasi-reptilian creature from an alternative line of evolution.



Portraits of quasi-reptilian creatures from an alternative line of evolution.



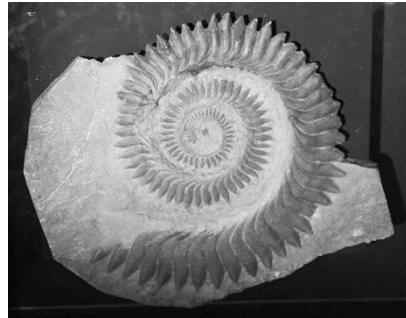
Sketches of various quasi-reptilian creatures.



Sketch of a snake-like quasi-reptilian creature, evolved to catch birds in its long jaws.

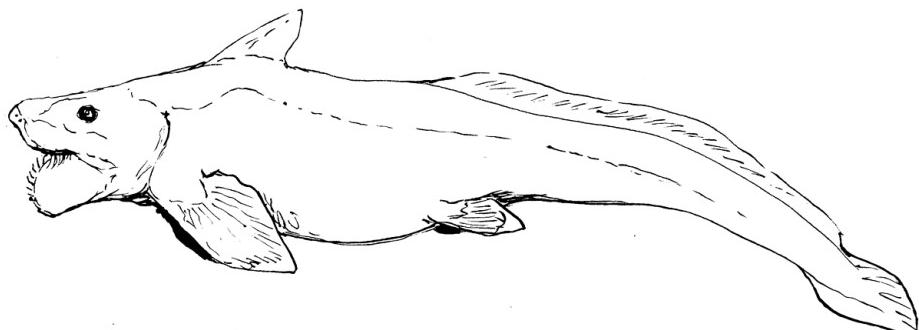


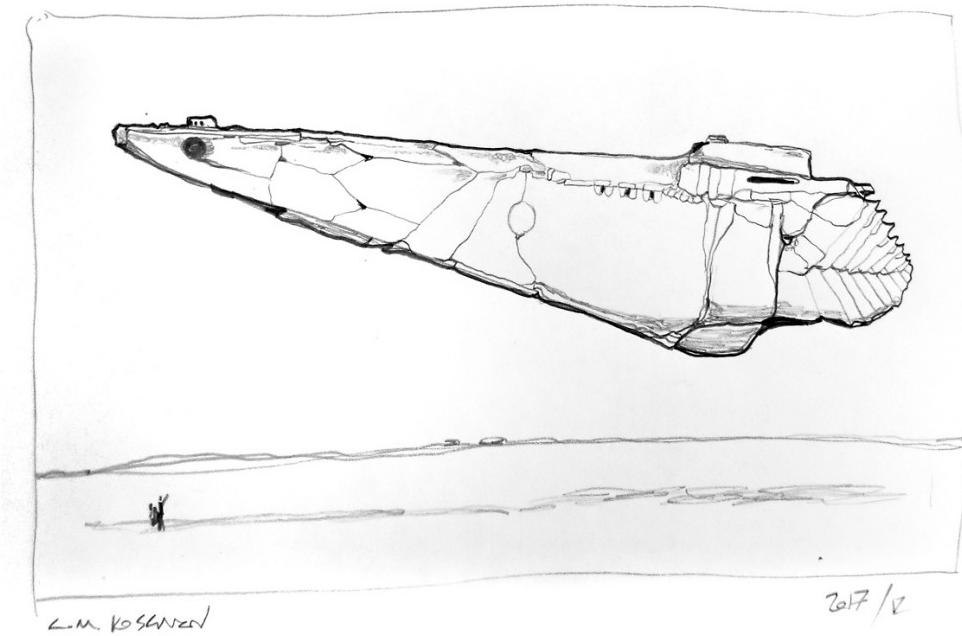
Ink sketches of fantastic, angel-like creatures.



*Helicoprion* was a mysterious fossil shark, known almost entirely from buzzsaw-like sets of spiral tooth whorls. Many reconstructions attempted to solve this palaeontological enigma, some placing the tooth whorl on top of fins, the tail; others, into the head at various strange arrangements.

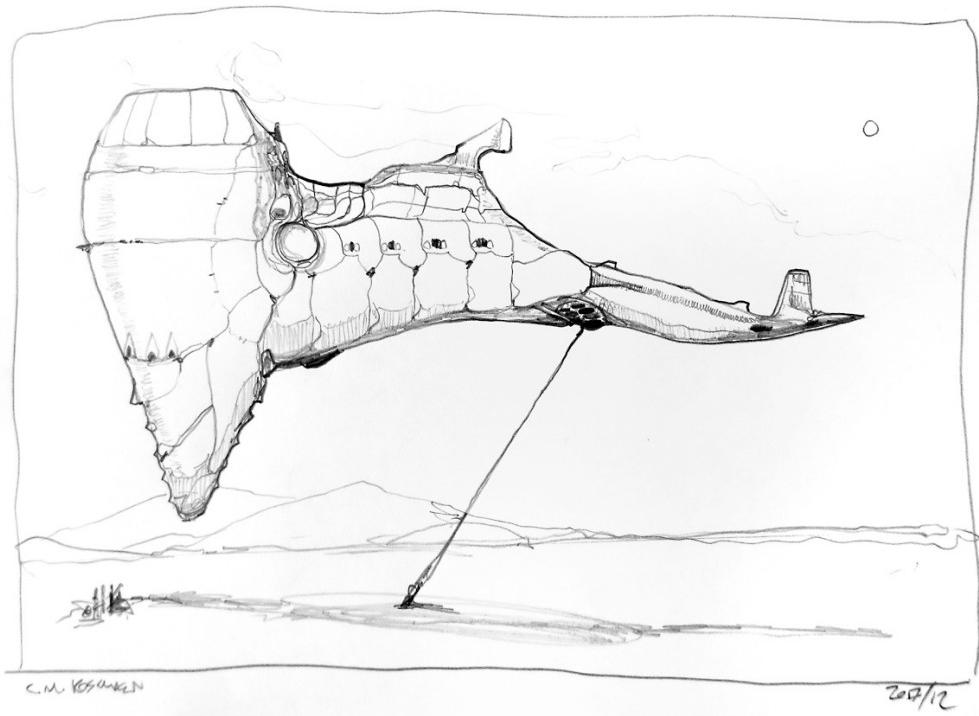
To the best of my knowledge the issue hasn't been solved conclusively at the present day; but new discoveries indicate that *Helicoprion* and its kin were probably, somehow, related to present-day chimaera fish, order Chimaeriformes.





C.M. KOSEMAN

2017/12



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2017/12

Pencil sketches of two quasi-organic spaceships.



Sketch of an alien idol clutching a smaller idol.



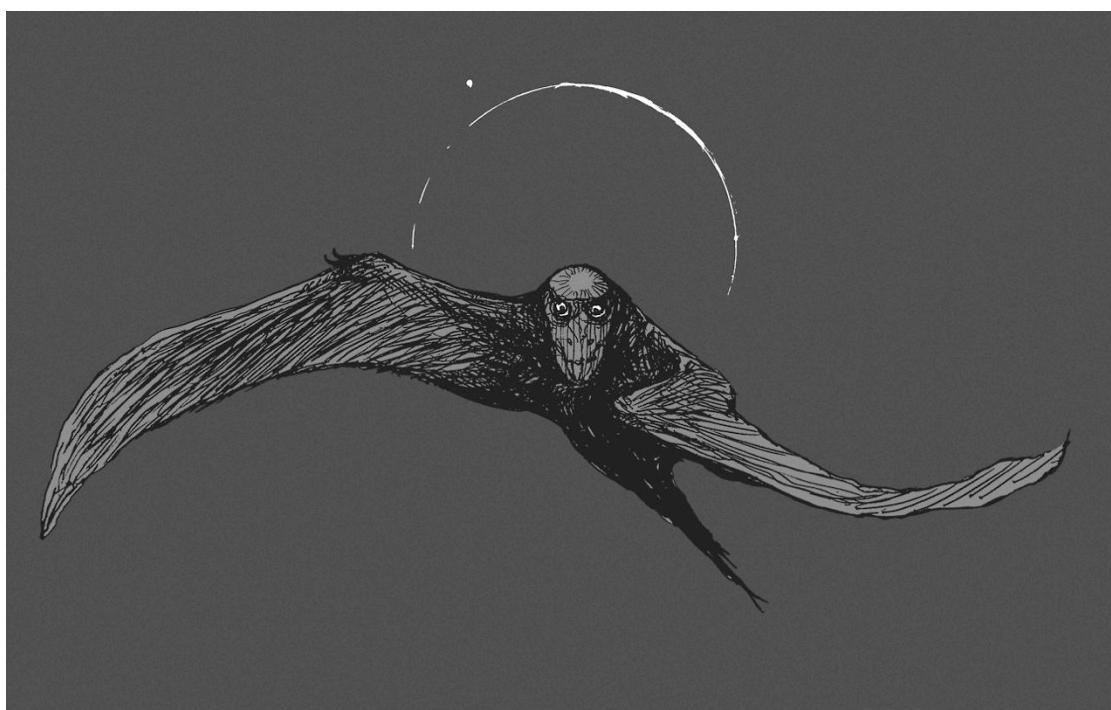
Sketch of a tripodal alien creature.



Design for a prow-head figure, a seabird-siren hybrid for a private yacht.  
This project was ultimately unrealized.

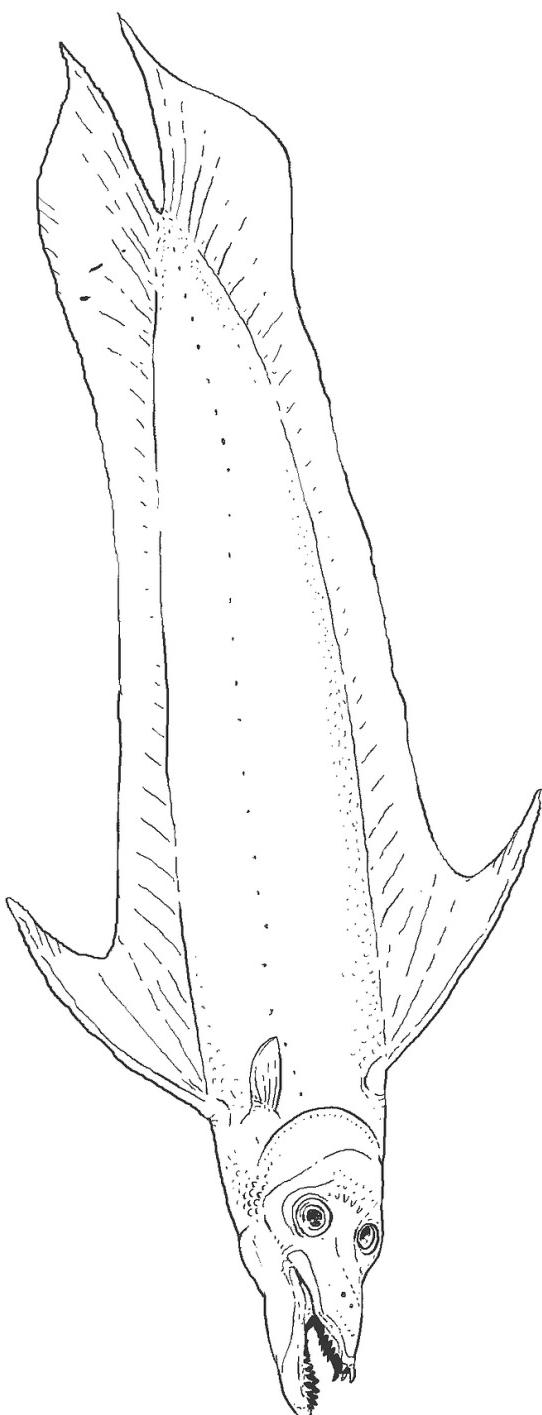


A study of limpet-like marine mammals, an exercise in speculative evolution.

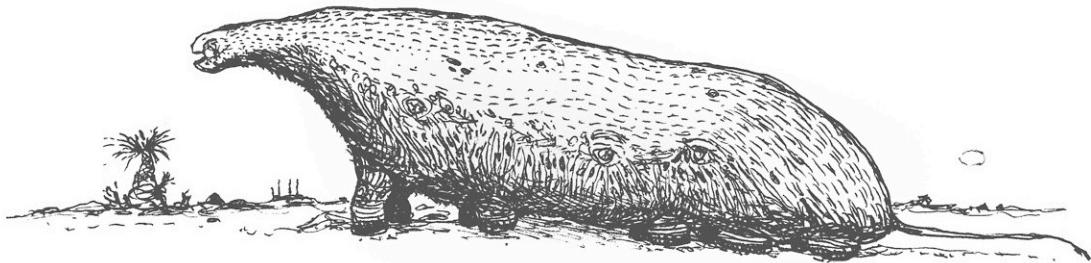


'Someone is leading me away,  
Do you not see, to the Hall of the Dead.  
He stares at me from under his dark-eyed brow.  
He has wings - He is Hades!'

- Alcestis' vision of Hades (From Euripides' '*Alcestis*')



Old sketch from an unrealised speculative evolution project: *Machaerasola* sp. - a 2-metre-long descendant of flatfish, secondarily adapted to life as a pelagic super-predator.



05/11/2017

HIGH-GRAVITY PLANET ANIMAL

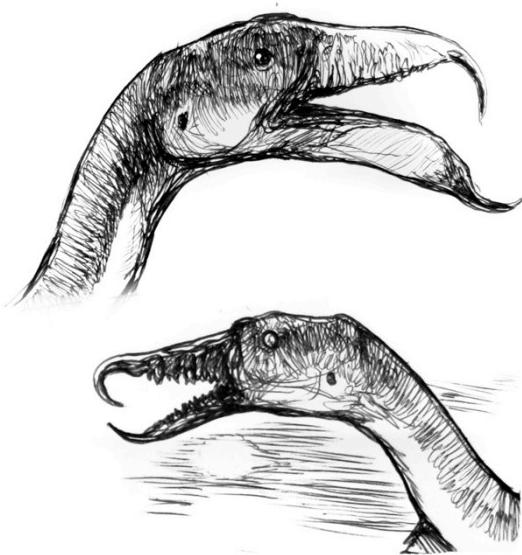
Above, a sketch of the  
mightiest animal on a  
high-gravity planet,  
the size of a small  
dog.



Left, sketch of  
*Lycoödon* - a fictitious  
species of giant  
arachnid, evolved to  
resemble land-living  
vertebrate animals.  
It's about the size of a  
big rat.



Someone once asked me about “*how it would be like if there were flying ‘raptors’*,” but “*like eagles, but still with long tails, hand-claws and beakless faces and all...*” I tried to sketch one out. It looks like a generic dinosaur-bird - we probably already know of transitional forms like this.

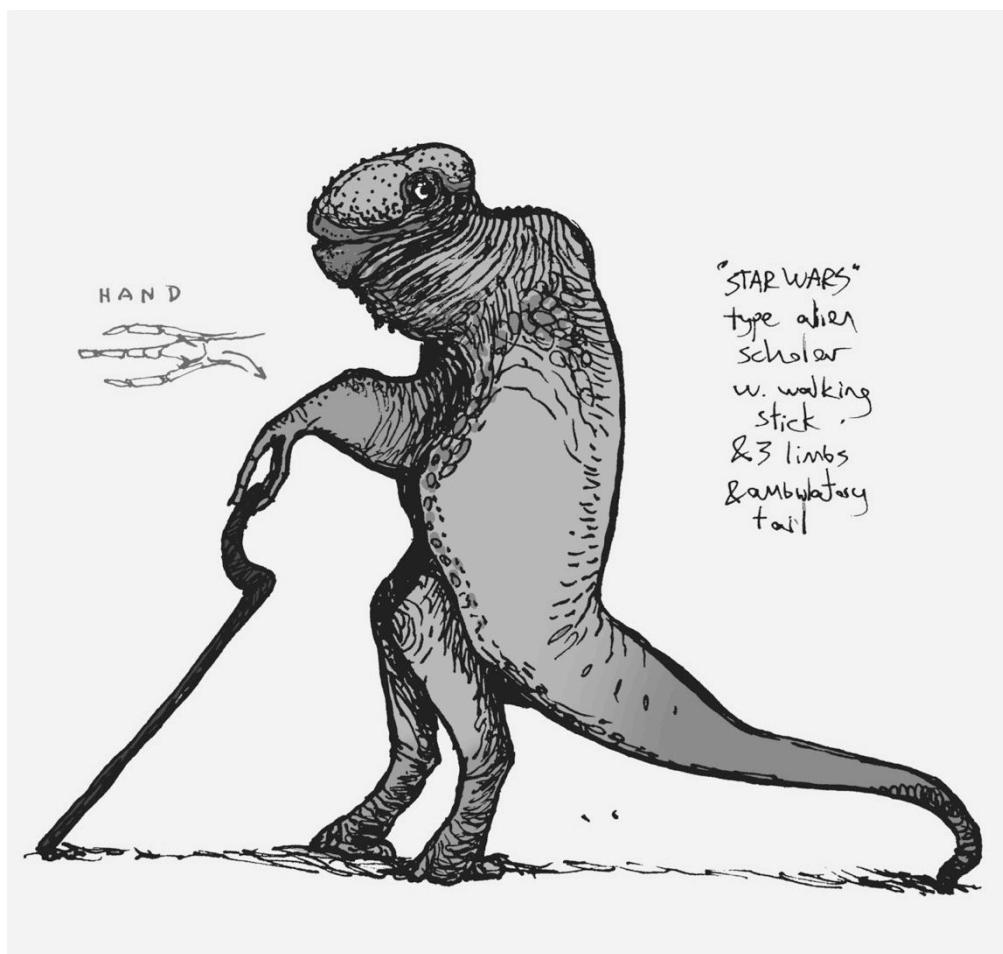


Sketches of two reptile-like animals with  
strange jaws, adapted to feed on an  
unusual food source.



Sketch of a fat, burrowing agamid lizard.

Not an actual species, but an exercise in speculative evolution.



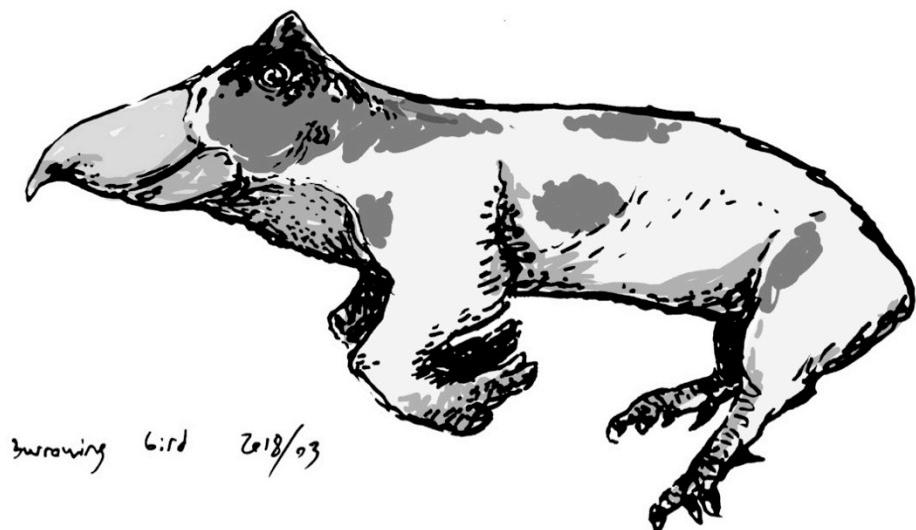
Sketch of a silly, tripodal alien character, inspired by creatures in the *Star Wars* films.



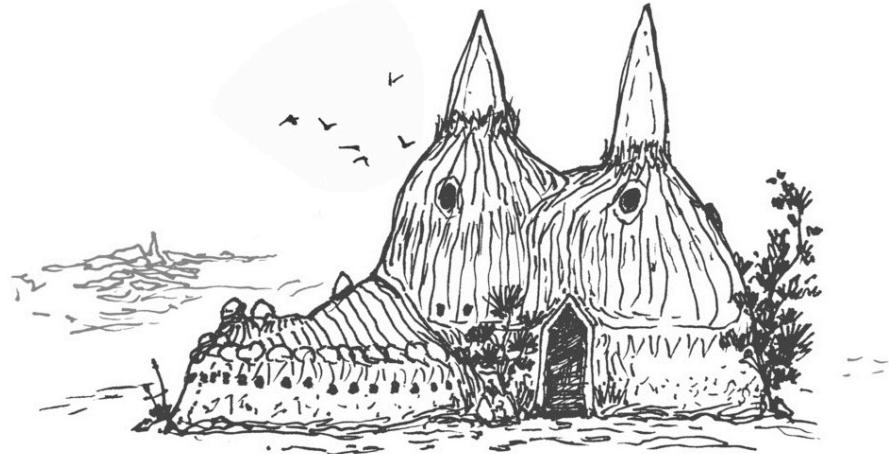
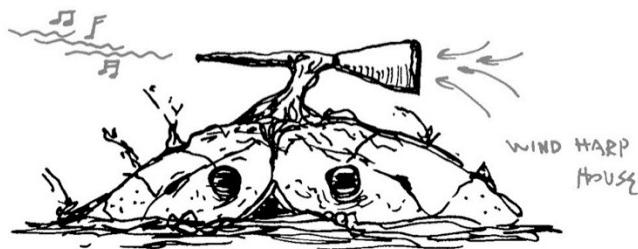
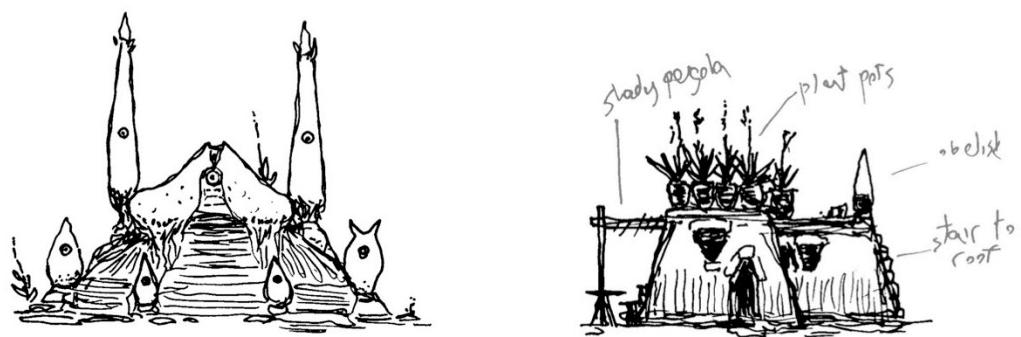
Sketch of an anole-like lizard running on two feet.



Pen and watercolour sketches of male and female *Plateosaurus* dinosaurs.



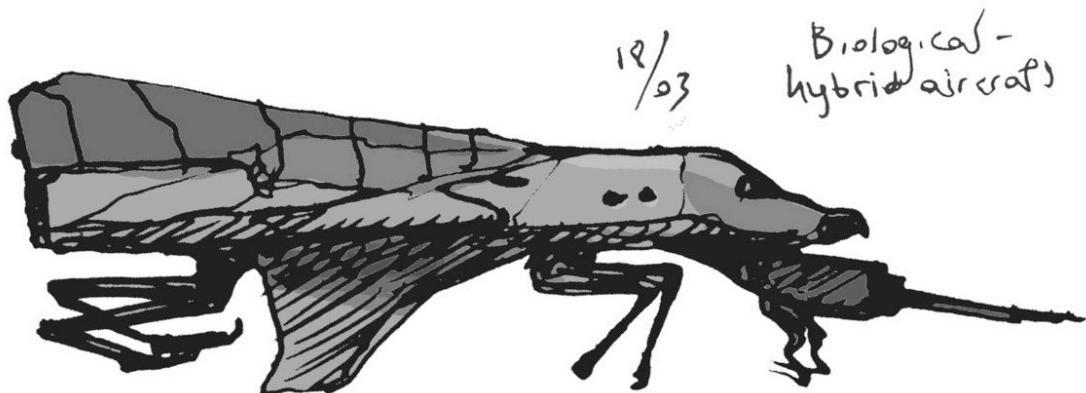
*Ceratogallus*, a burrowing bird with a heavy beak and a horn-like protrusion on its head. Not a real animal (obviously!), but an exercise in speculative evolution.



Sketches of surreal, quasi-organic buildings. One of them makes music from the wind.



Sketch of *Anomaloplodon*, a “straw-toothed lizard”. It’s not a true lizard as we know it.  
Not a real animal, but an exercise in speculative zoology.



Sketch of a biomechanical fighter aircraft.



Sketch of *Paradoxocursor*; a predatory animal - perhaps a crocodile-descendant, perhaps a lizard, perhaps something completely different; that has independently evolved a "raptor"-like body plan in a world where dinosaurs did not evolve. This is not a real animal, but an exercise in speculative evolution.



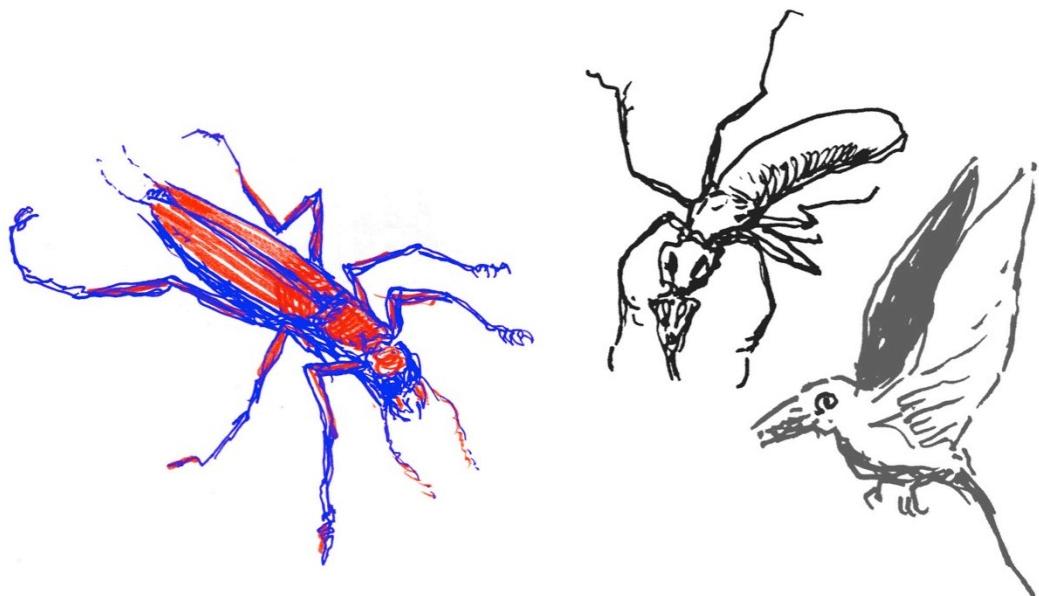
Sketch for an unfinished colour painting based on Snaiad, my world-design project.



Sketch of a far future jet fighter / robot drone, manufactured with nanotechnological complexity on par with biological sophistication.



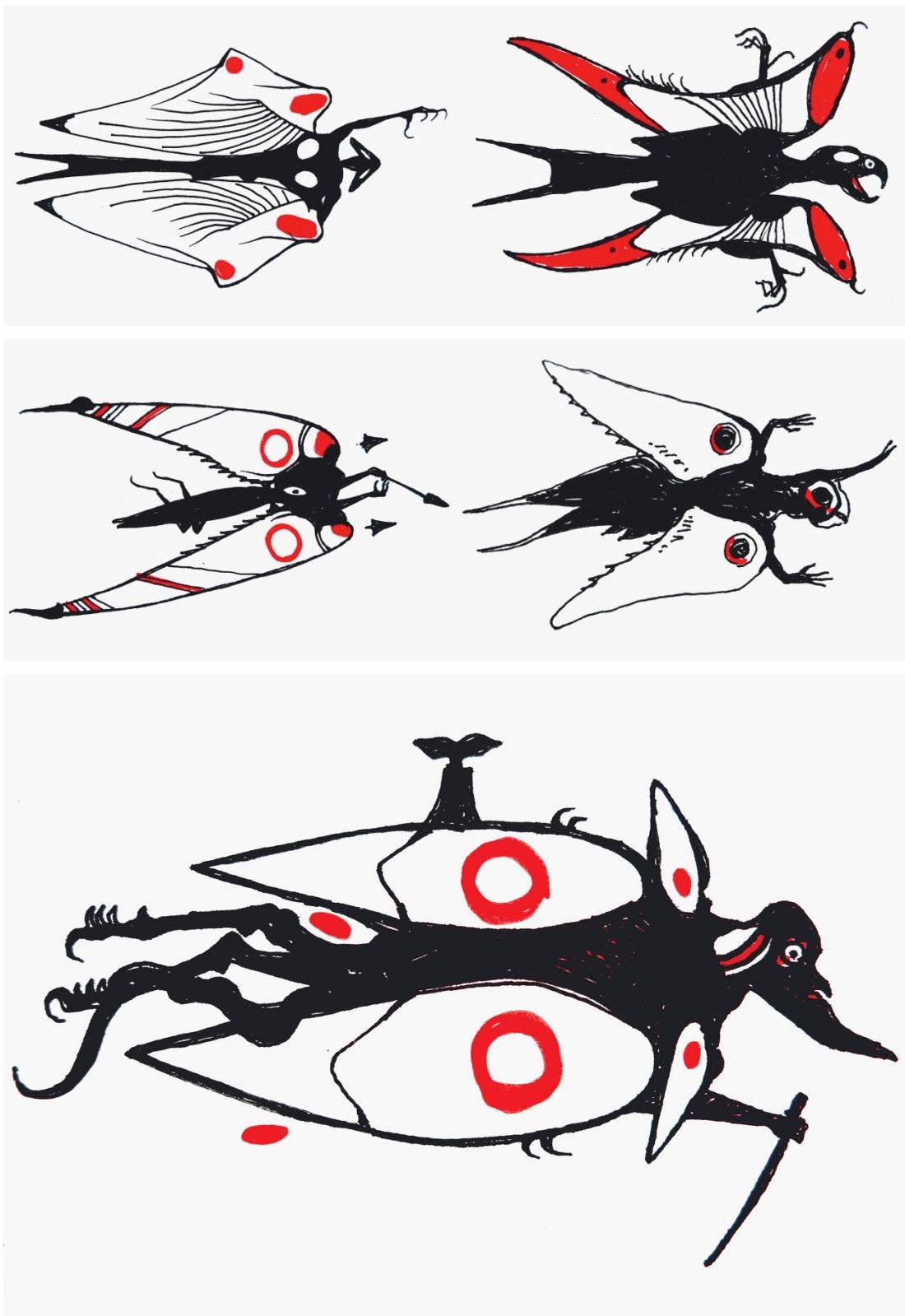
Base drawing and colour study for the “aquatic rhamphorhynchoid” - *Ichthyopteryx* sp. - a fully-aquatic descendant of the rhamphorhynchoid pterosaur lineage. This is not a real animal, but the product of an exercise in speculative-evolution.



Frivolous sketches of insect and bird-like animals.



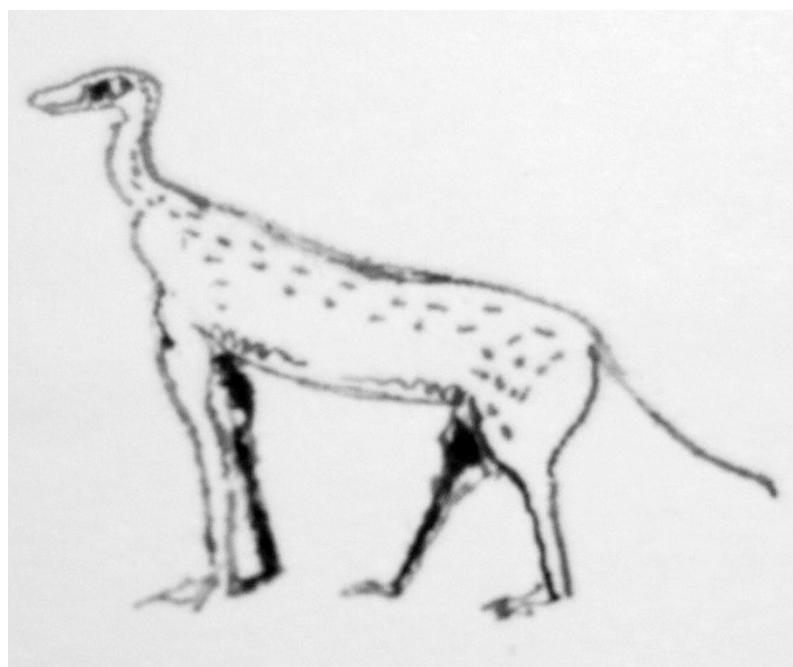
A girl enjoys an afternoon bike-ride with a six-legged, “alien opossum”-type creature.



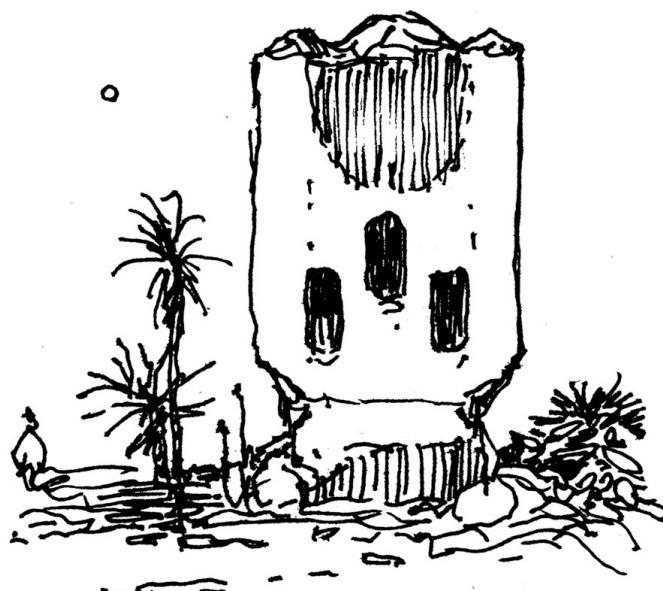
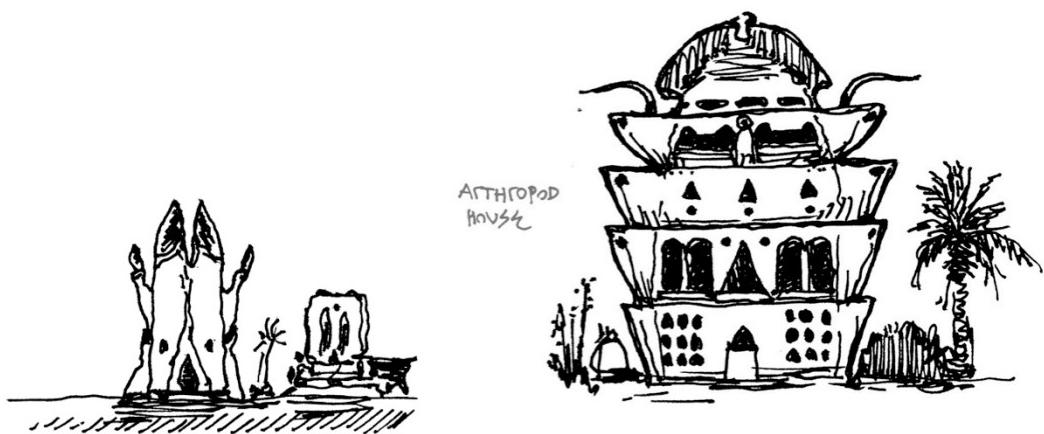
Sketches of winged demon figures.



Sketch of a winged demon figure.



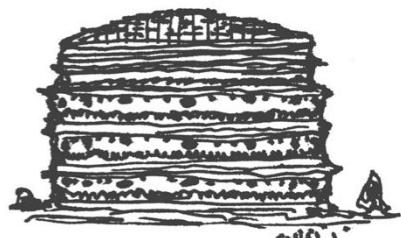
Sketch of a bird-like, four-legged creature.



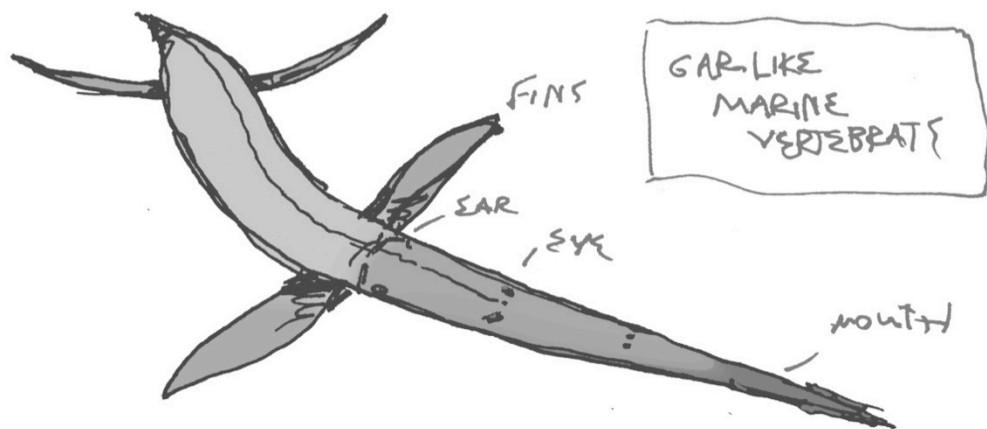
C.M. Kosemen

05 2018

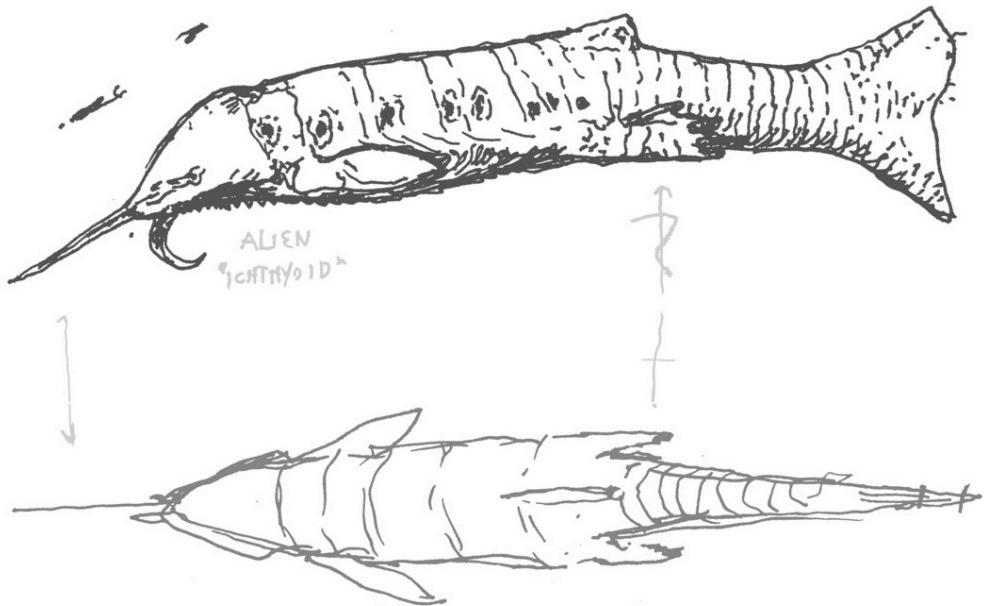
large building



Sketches of various fantastic buildings.



Sketch of a gar-like, alien marine vertebrate with six limbs. Two pairs of limbs are fins; the final pair lies folded like harpoons in the foremost part of its head.



Sketch of an alien ichthyoid, an armoured, tetrapod-like swimmer with sharp tusks.



Impressionistic sketch of a large, plant-eating dinosaur and some pterosaurs.



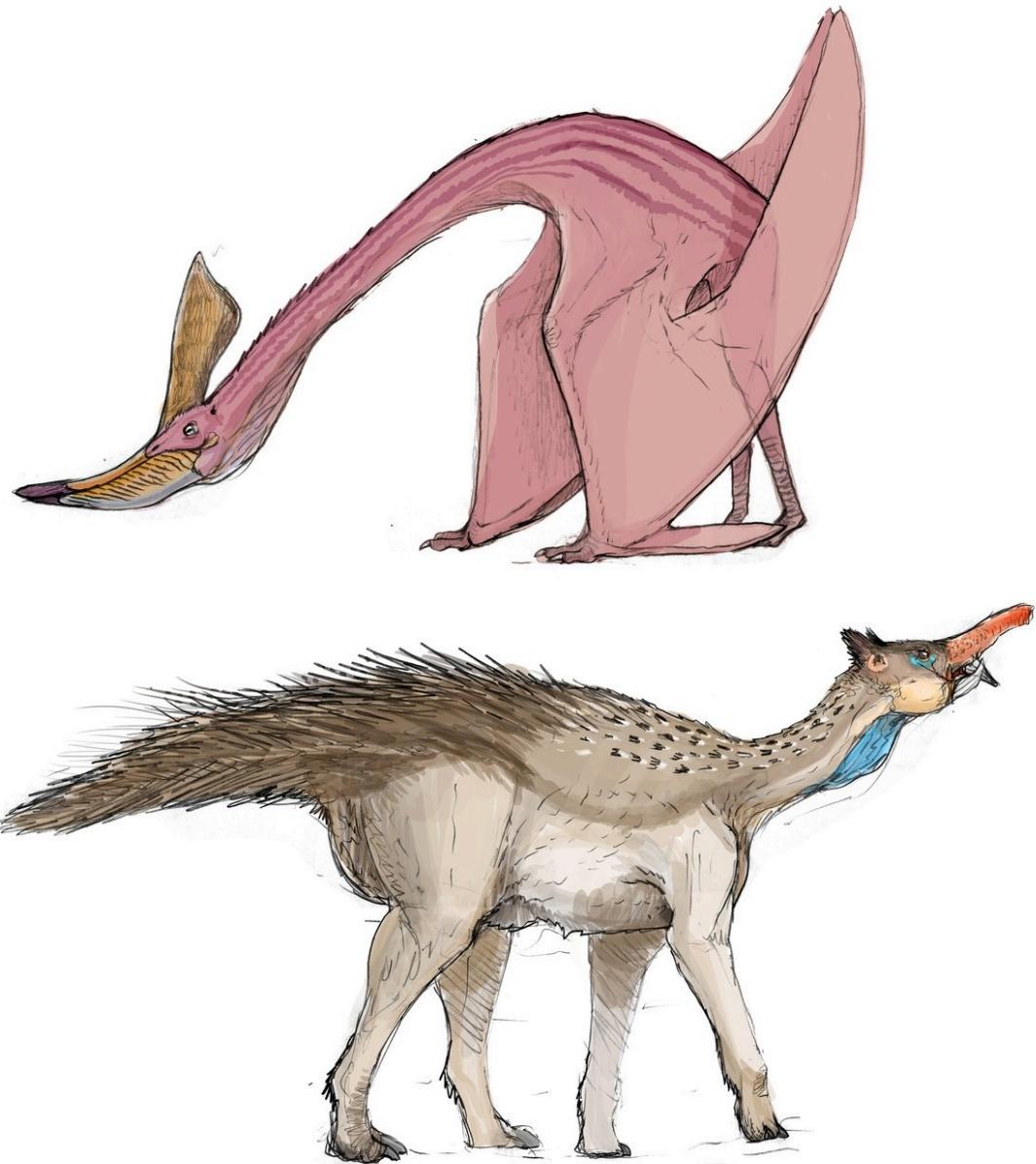
Sketch of a predatory *Velociraptor*, another experiment in impressionistic dinosaur art.



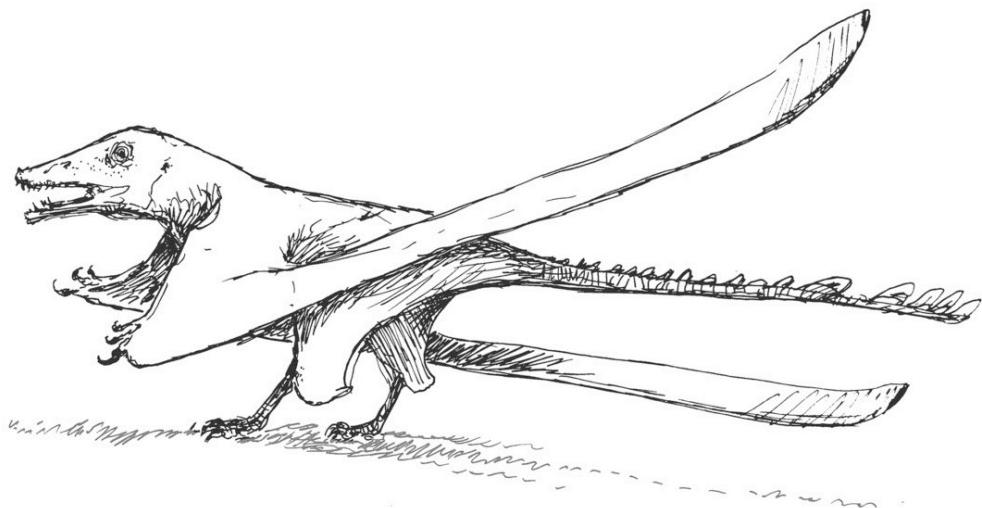
Sketch of “*Becklespinax*”, a dinosaur known only from fragmentary remains.



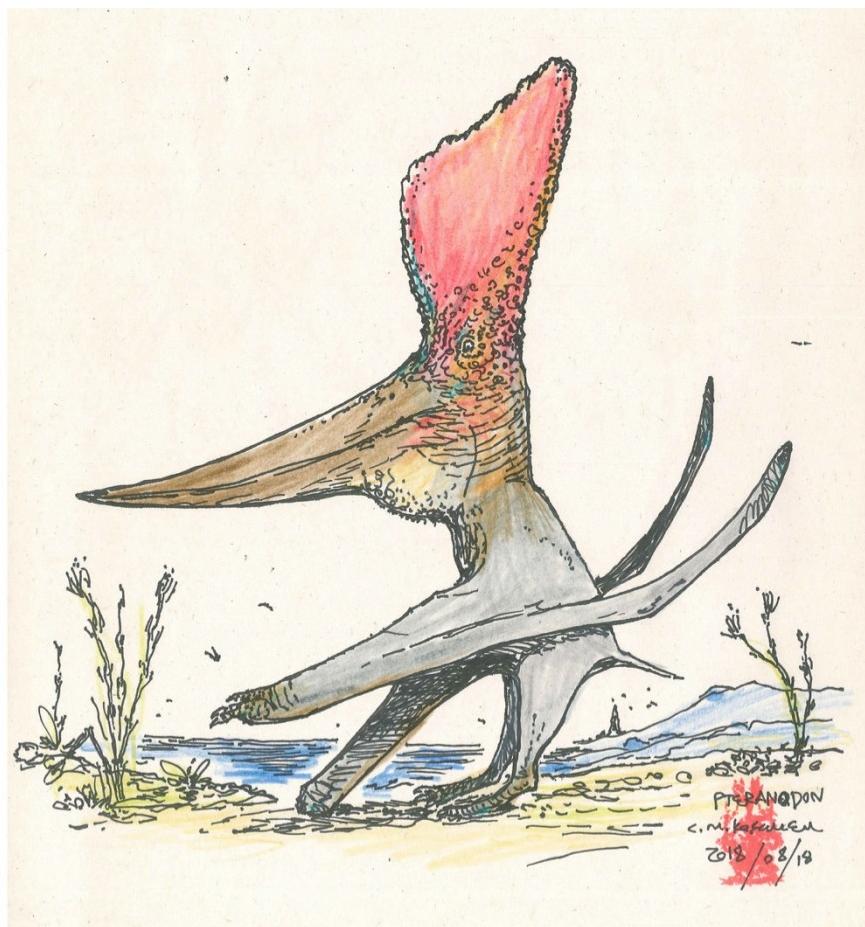
Sketch of *Zuniceratops*, a horned dinosaur about the size of a donkey.



Two concept creatures from a world where dinosaurs did not go extinct; part of an old project with the comic artist Simon Roy. Above: an advanced pterosaur, with extra “winglets” derived from pre-wing digits. Below: a trunked, grazing ornithischian dinosaur.

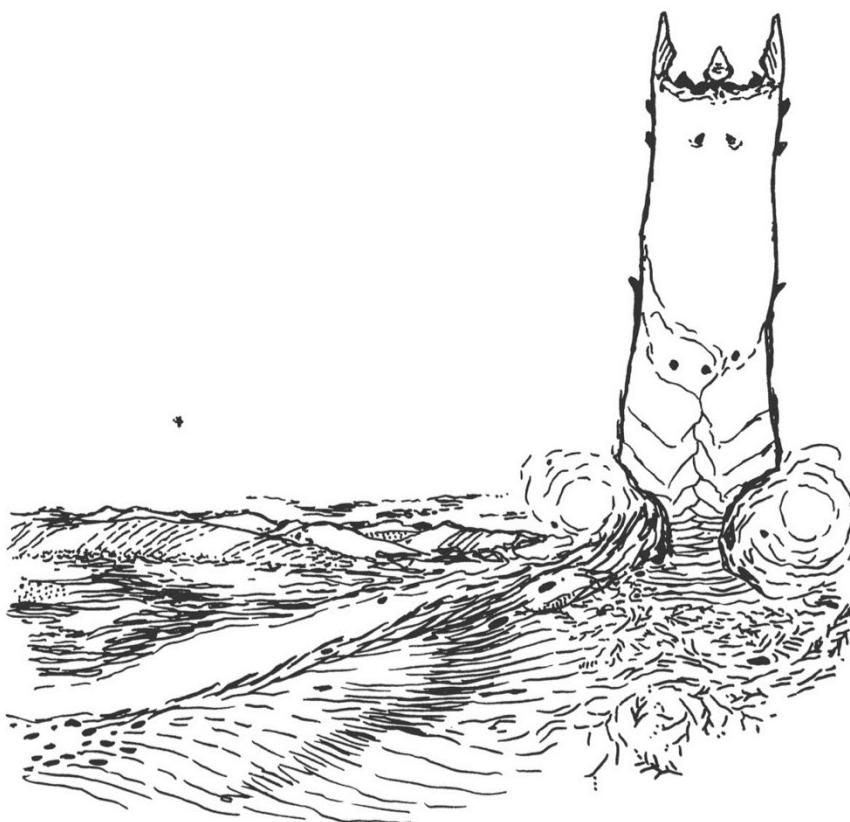


Sketch of the pterosaur *Campylognathoides*, according to a new “semi-bipedal” interpretation proposed by Professor Kevin Padian. According to Dr. Padian, pterosaurs kept their knees “tucked in” like birds and most other archosaurs, resulting in a more compact stance.



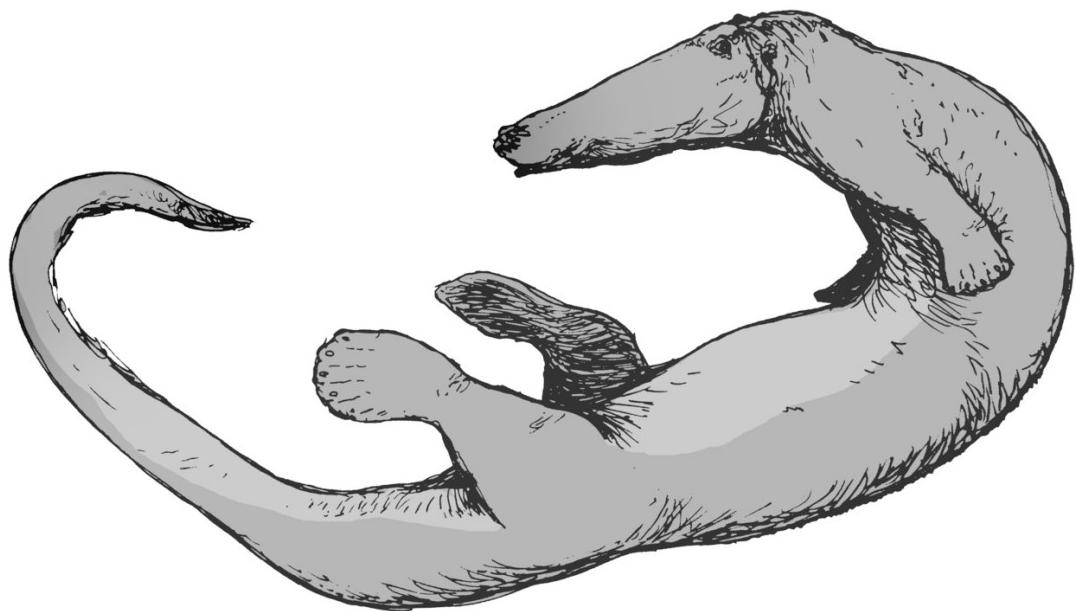
Pencil-and-pen sketch of *Pteranodon* (or is it *Geosternbergia*?).

A popular species of prehistoric flying reptile.

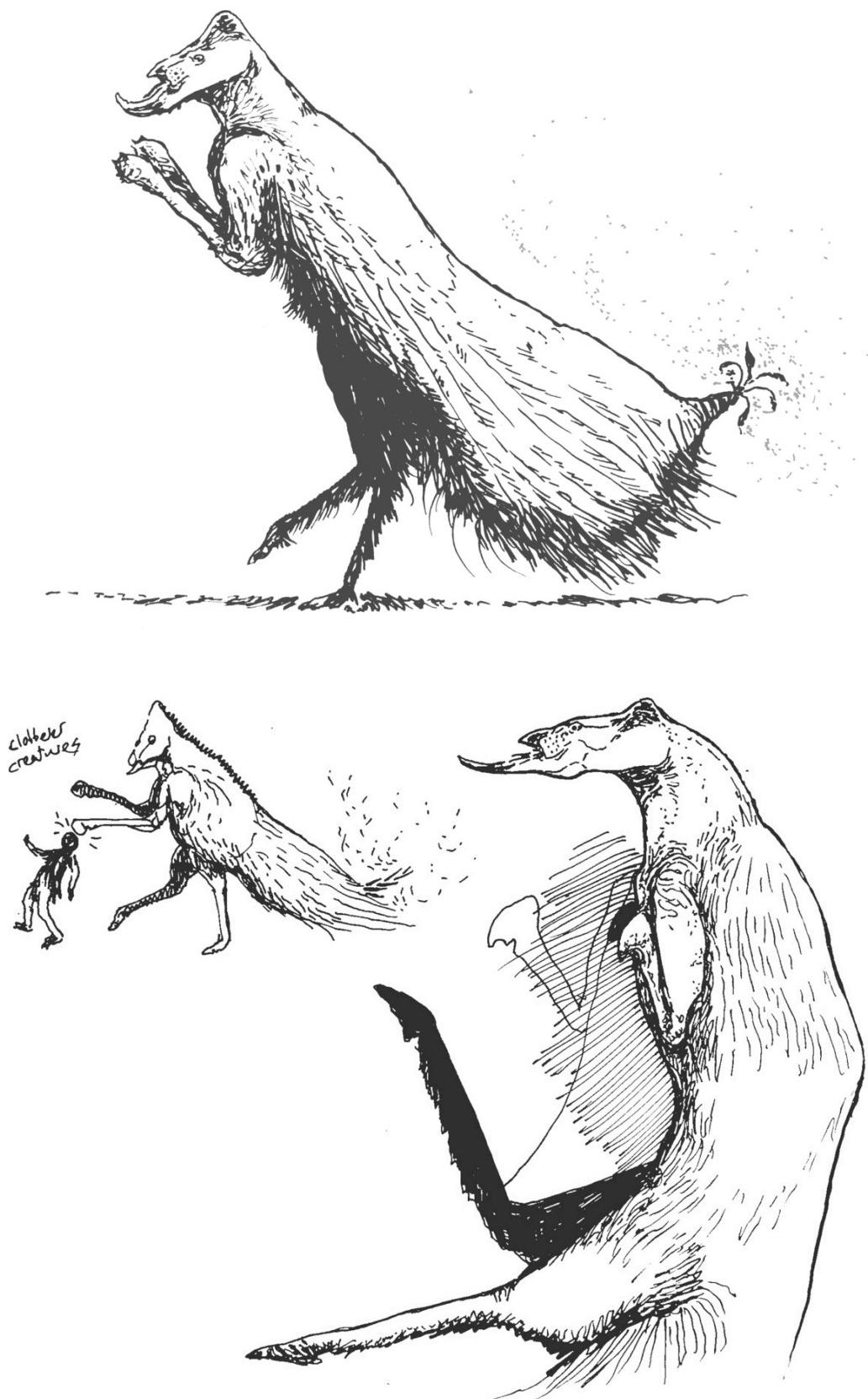


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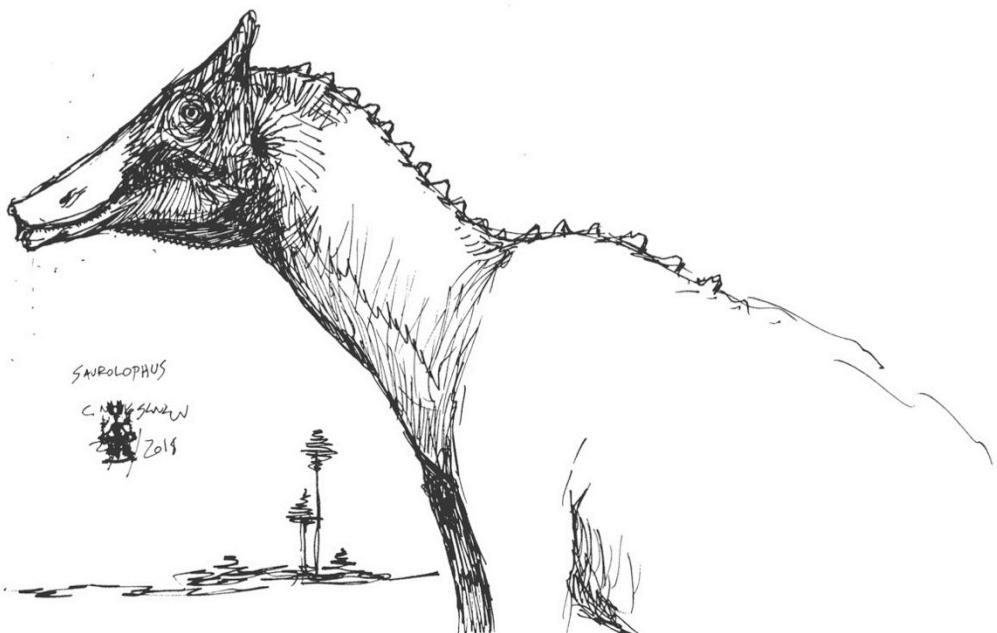
Sketch of a surreal landscape in ink.



Species of a speculative, dog-like aquatic mammal.



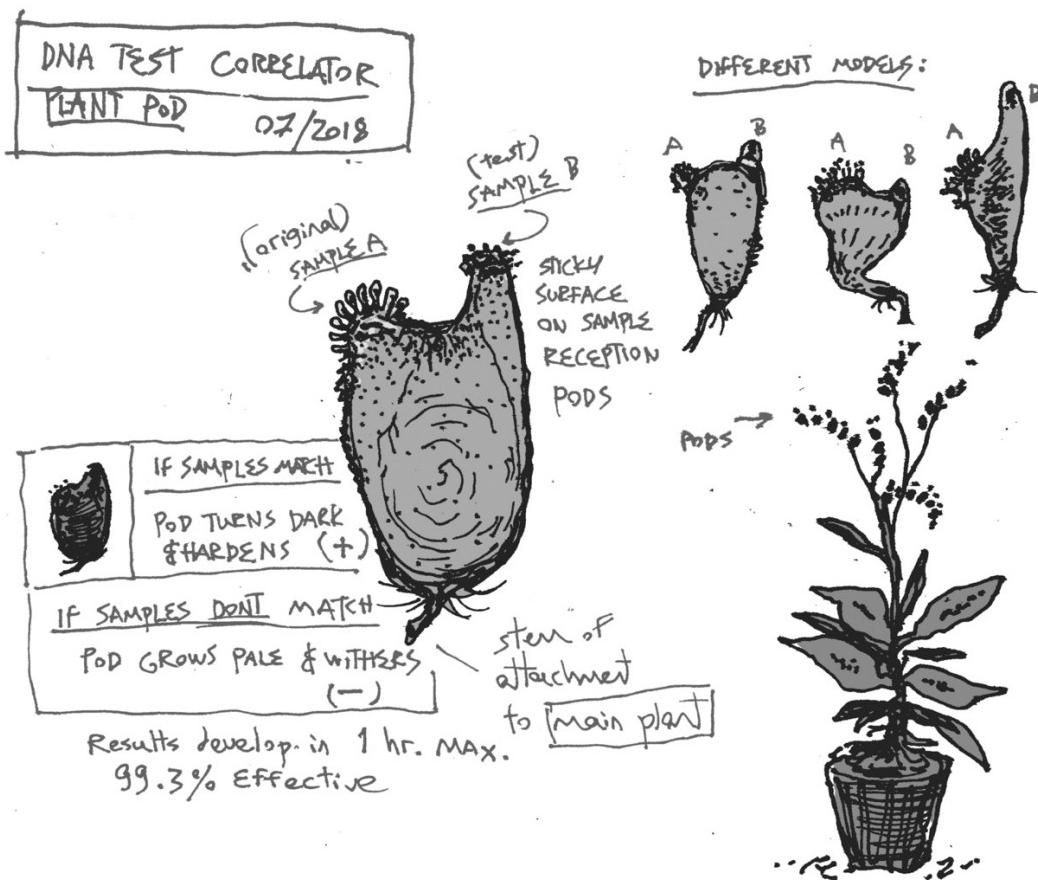
Sketches of “clobberers”, fantastic animals that attack people with club-like forelimbs.



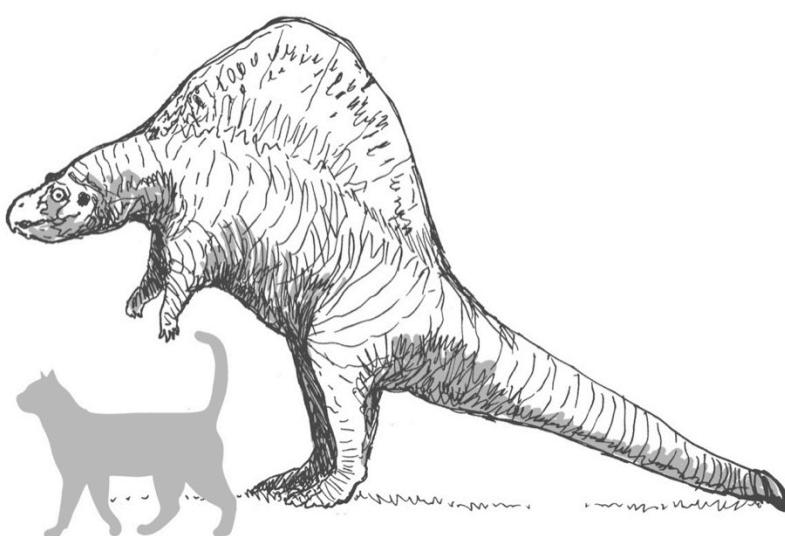
Sketch of the crested herbivorous dinosaur *Sauropodus*.



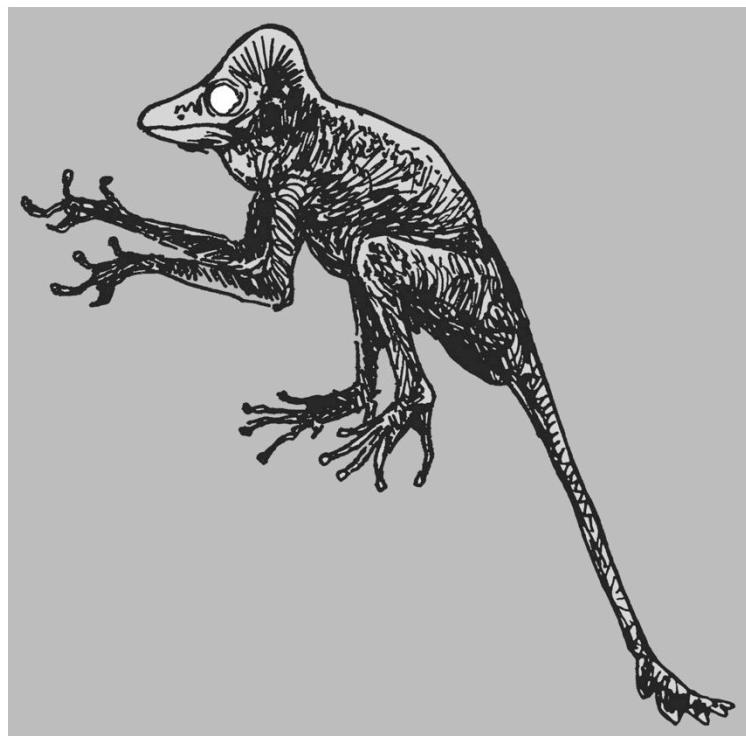
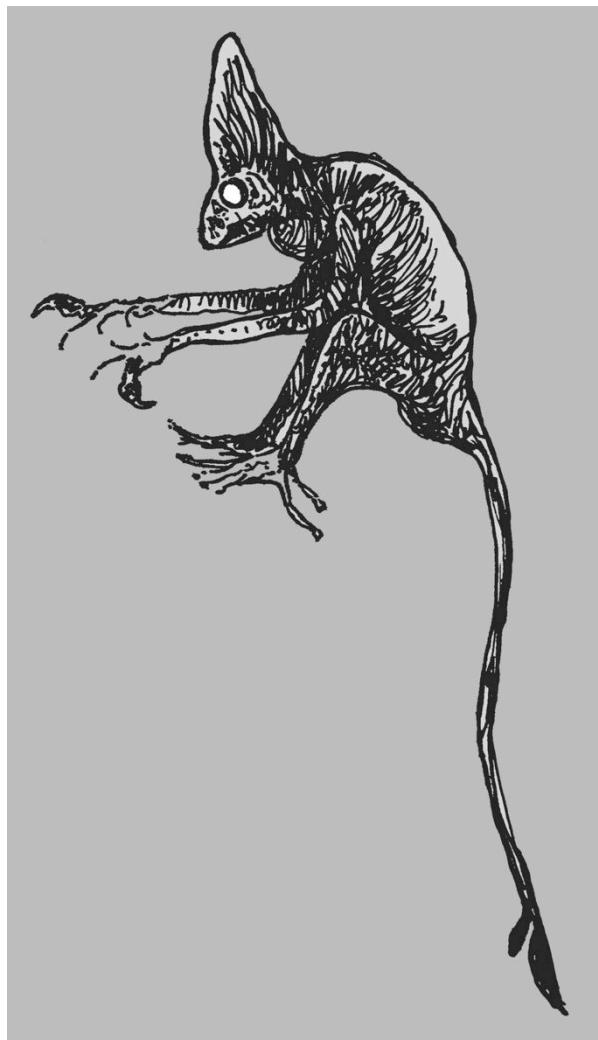
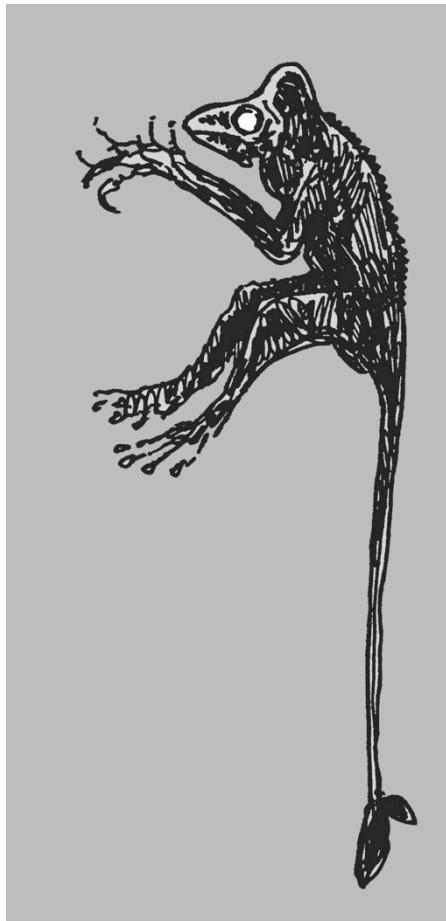
Portrait of the flying reptile *Mythunga*, restored with lip-like tissues covering its long teeth.



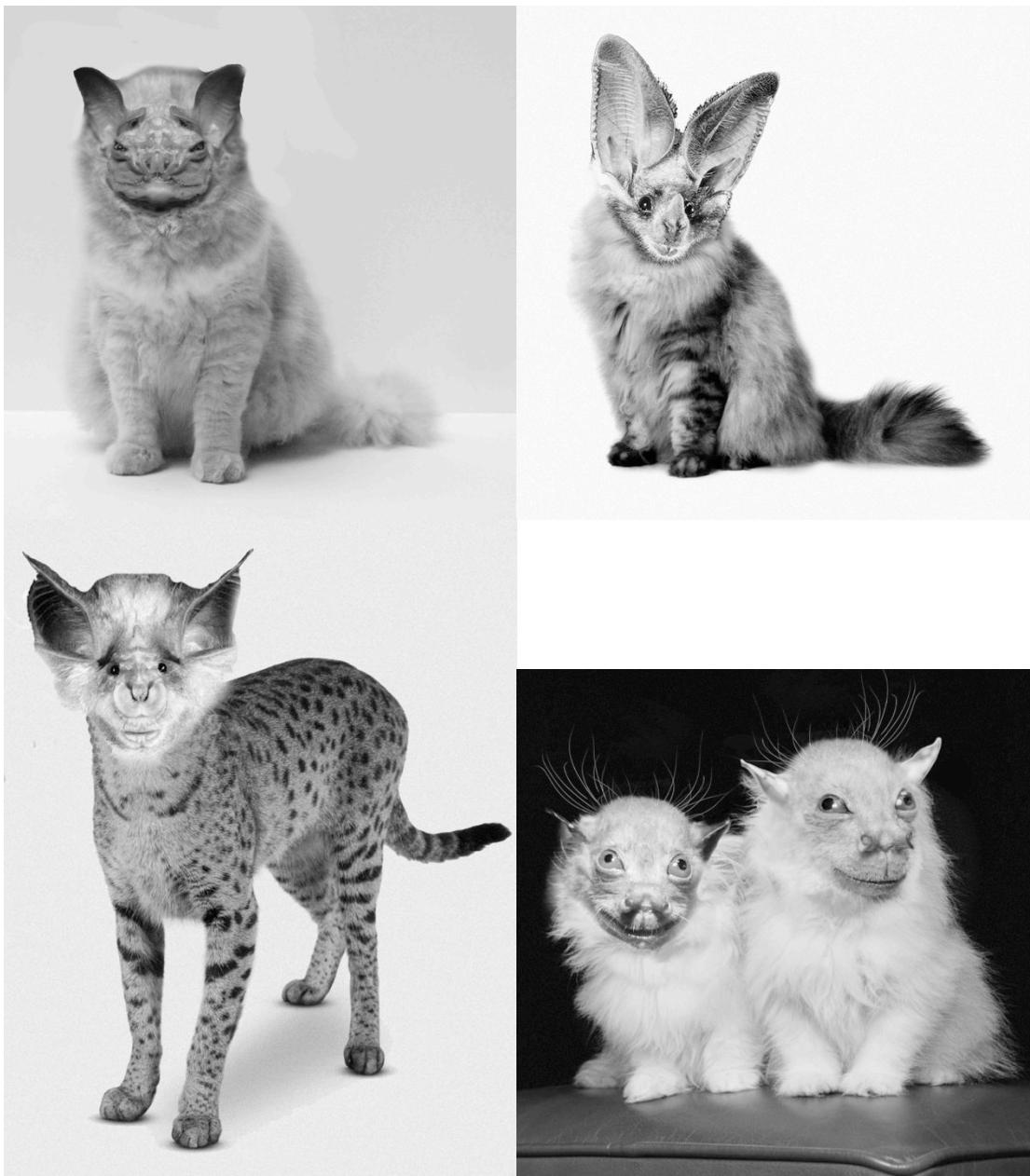
Hasty concept sketch for a “realistic” biotech product: Plant-pods that can run quick and cheap DNA tests. The pods (actually derived flowers) grow on the mother plant. You pick one - daub one end with the “original” DNA, and the other with the sample you want to test. If the samples match, the pod darkens and hardens. If they don’t match, it withers and grows pale.



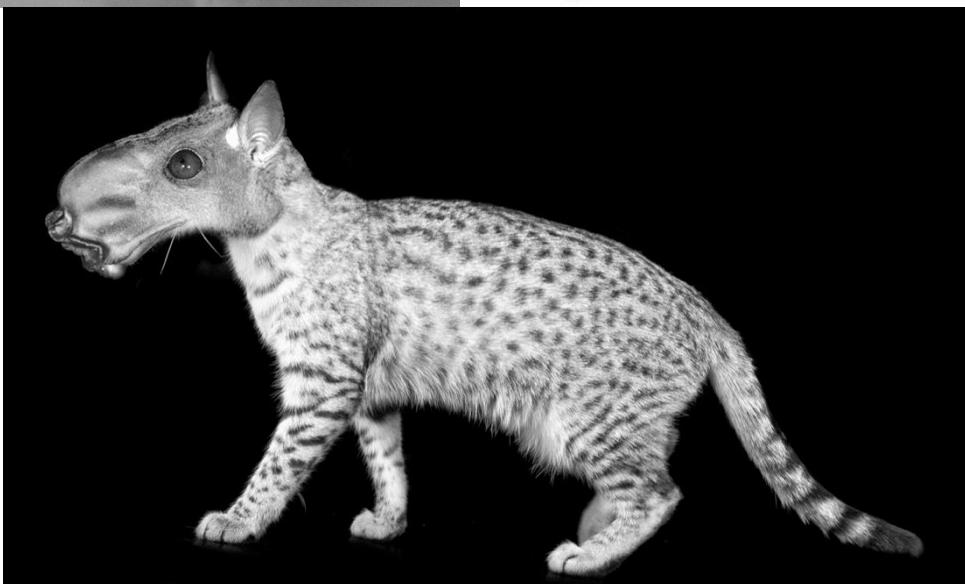
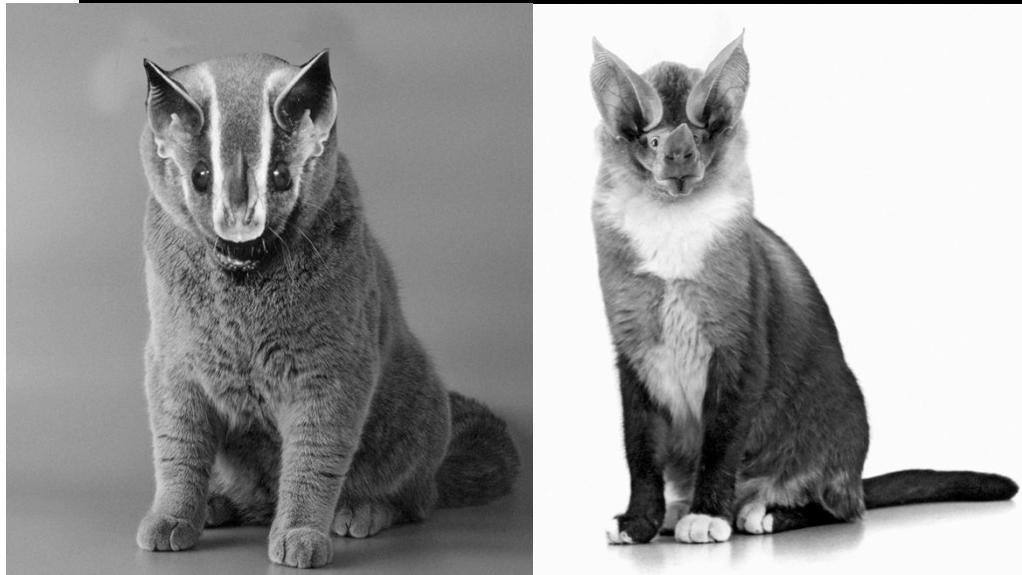
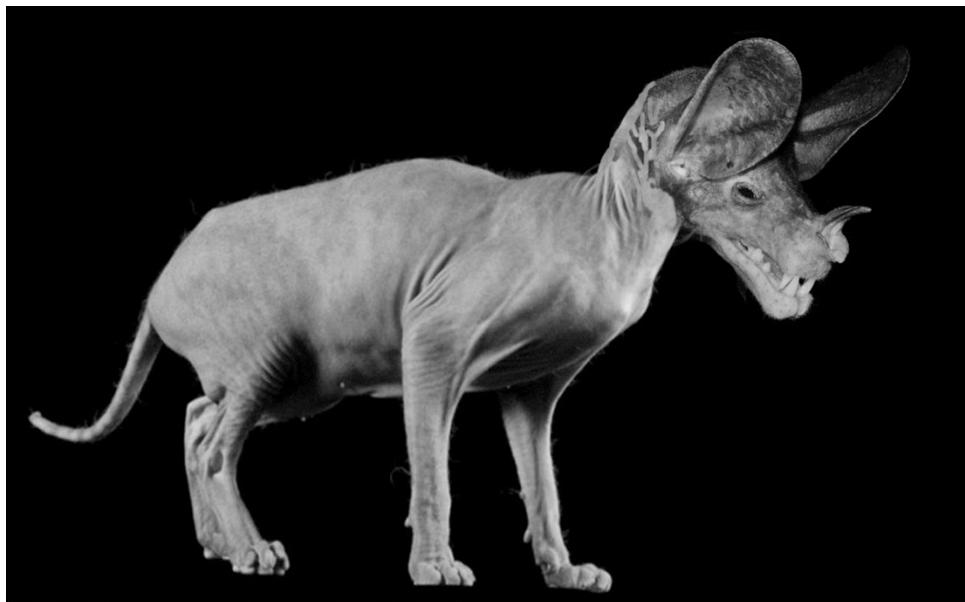
Sketch of a  
fictional sail-  
backed reptile,  
in scale with the  
silhouette of a  
cat.



Three sketches of monkey-like reptiles, concepts from an exercise in speculative evolution.



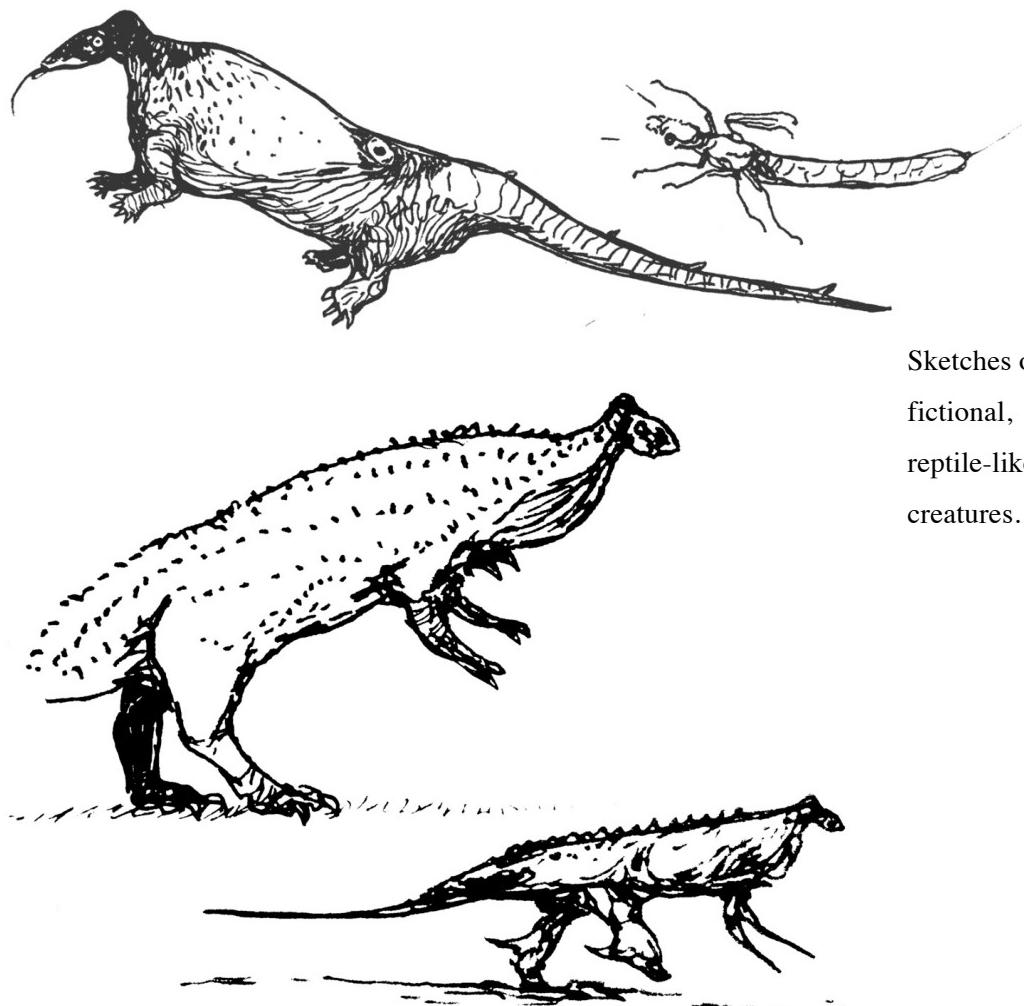
Whimsical collages of  
cats with the faces of  
bats. Some of them look  
quite plausible.



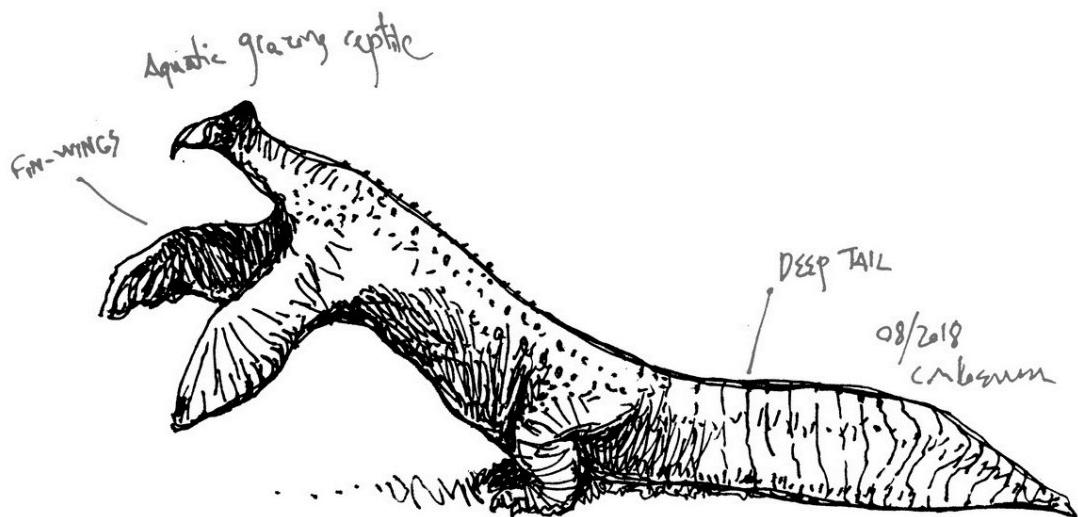
More whimsical collages of cats with the faces of bats.



A whimsical duck/dog collage to follow up on the bat/cats on the previous pages.



Sketches of  
fictional,  
reptile-like  
creatures.



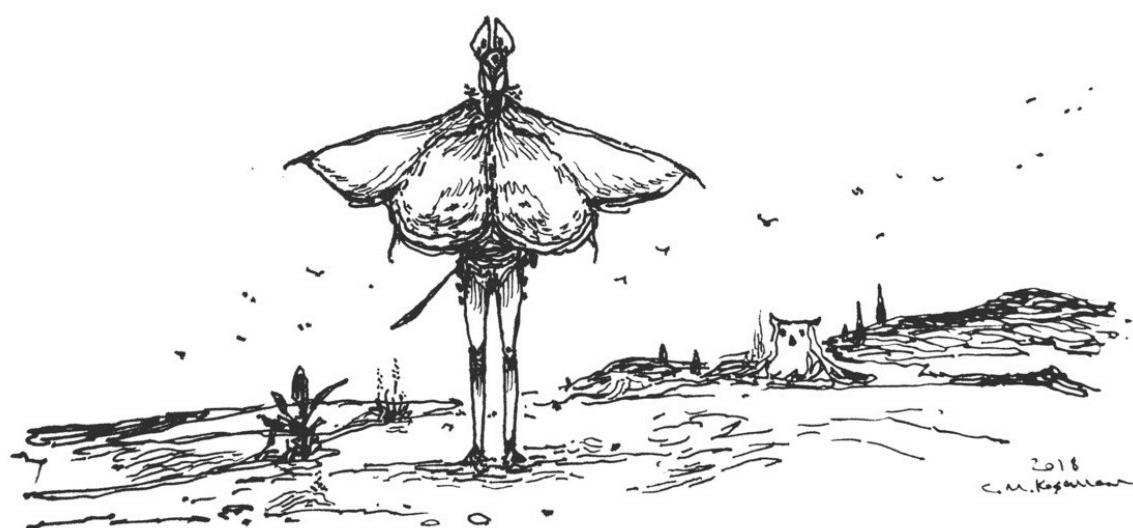
Sketch of a stocky-bodied aquatic reptile from another line of evolution.



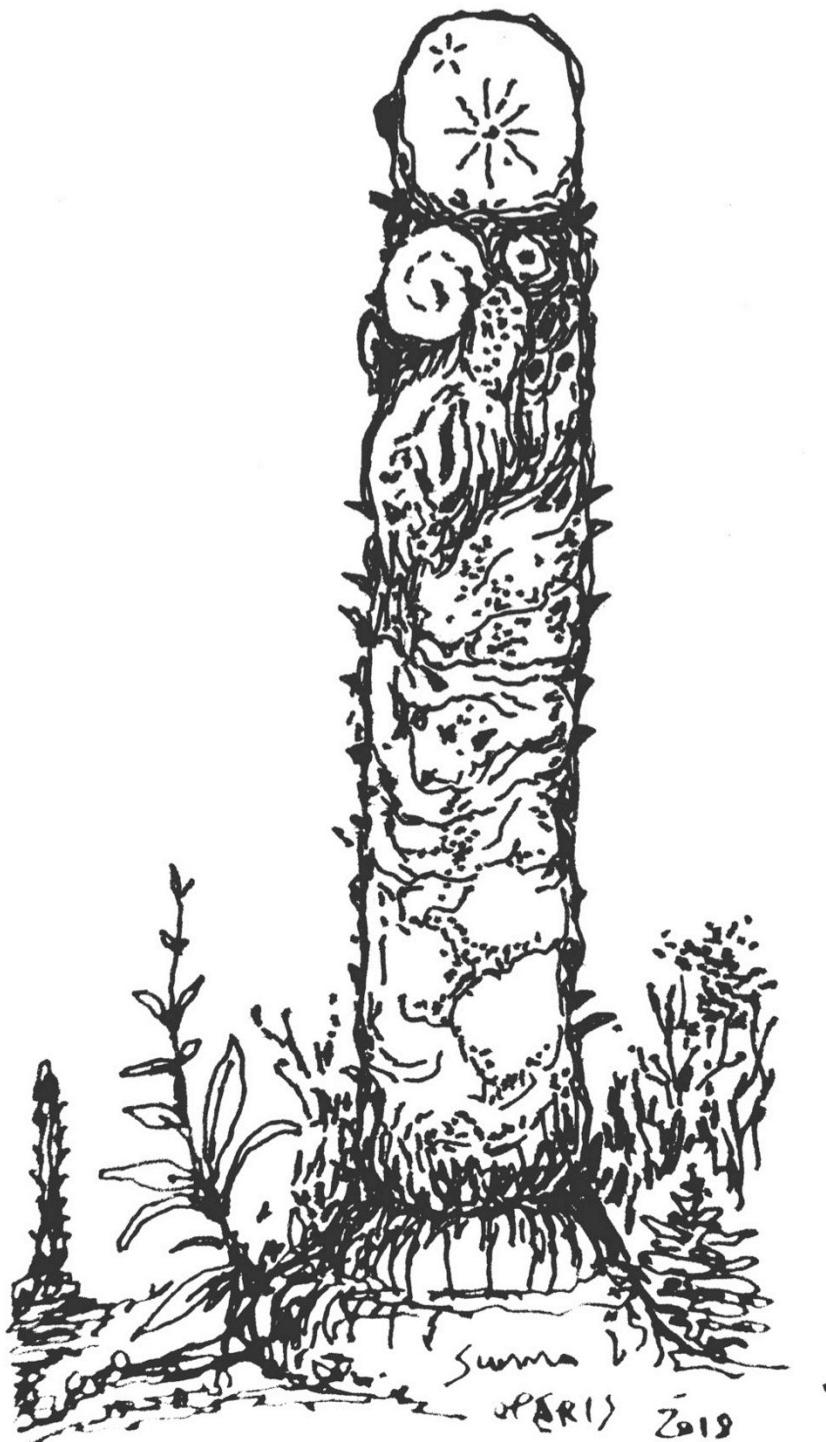
Sketch of a Mediterranean landscape.



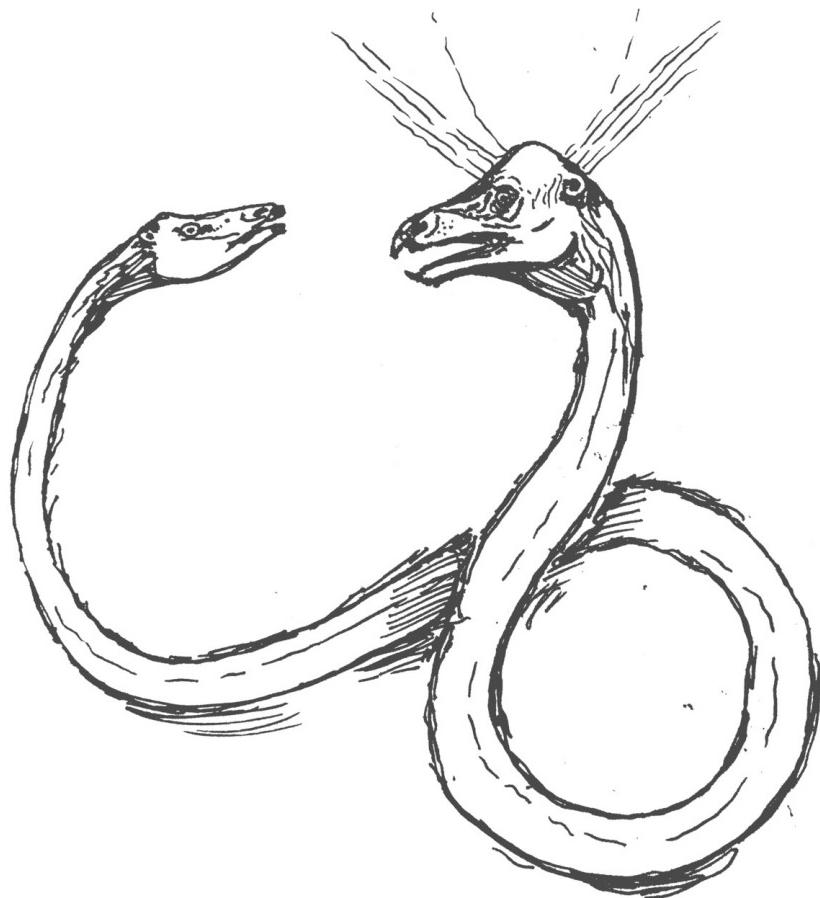
Sketch of a cloaked, insectile demon; and a tall, grasshopper-like alien having a drink.



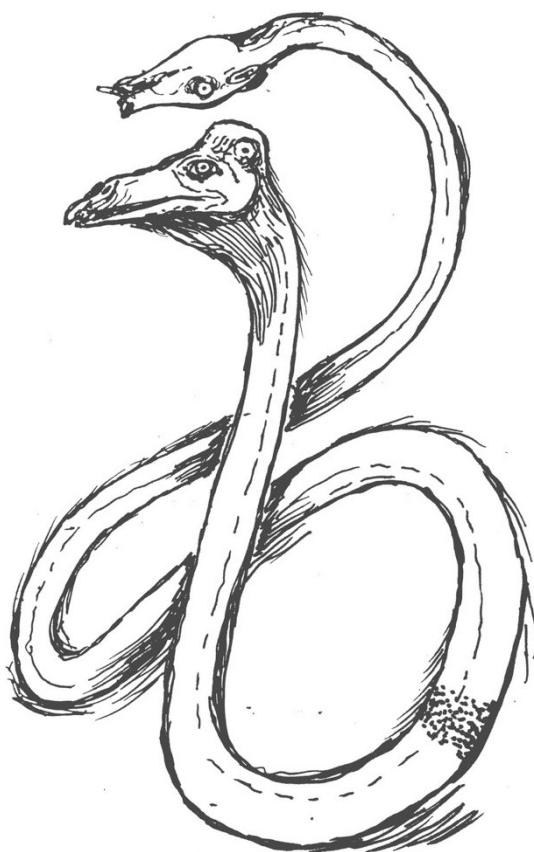
Sketch of a moth-like demonic wanderer.

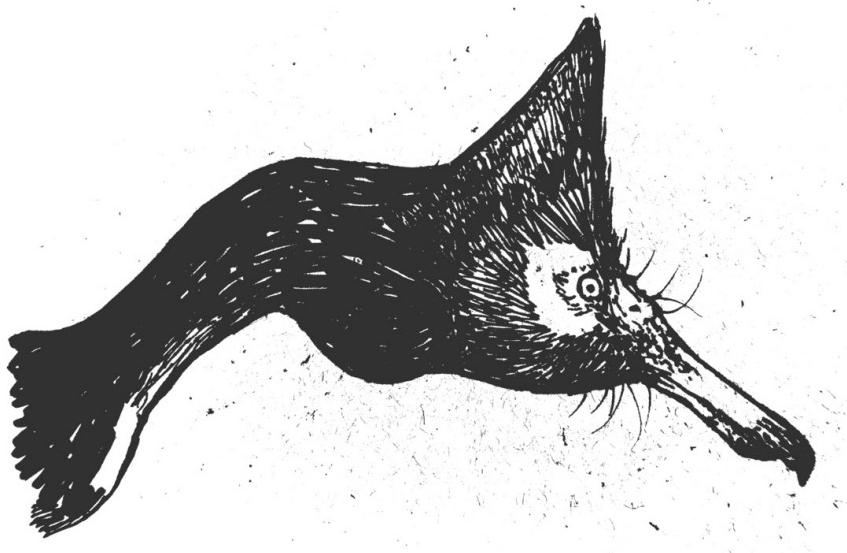


Sketch of a talking pillar created by a race of sentient beings adept at breeding living tools.



Sketches of two “amphisbaena” creatures, in pastiche of Mediaeval “bestiary” illustrations.

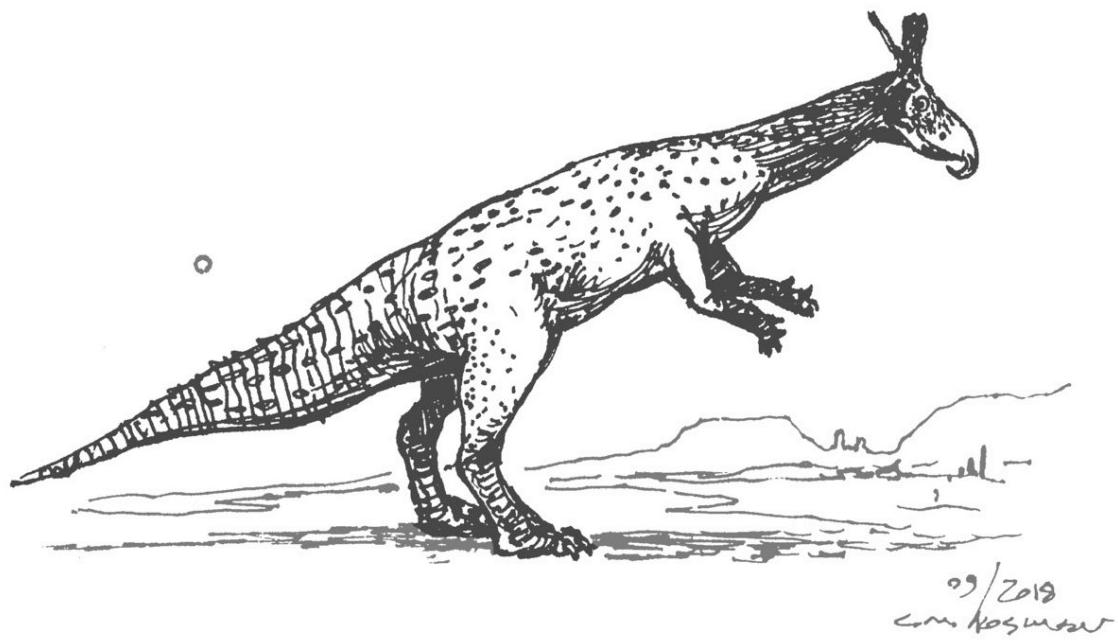




Real-life birds can be so zany, that some forms can make these two weird bird-like sketches seem only a little exaggerated.

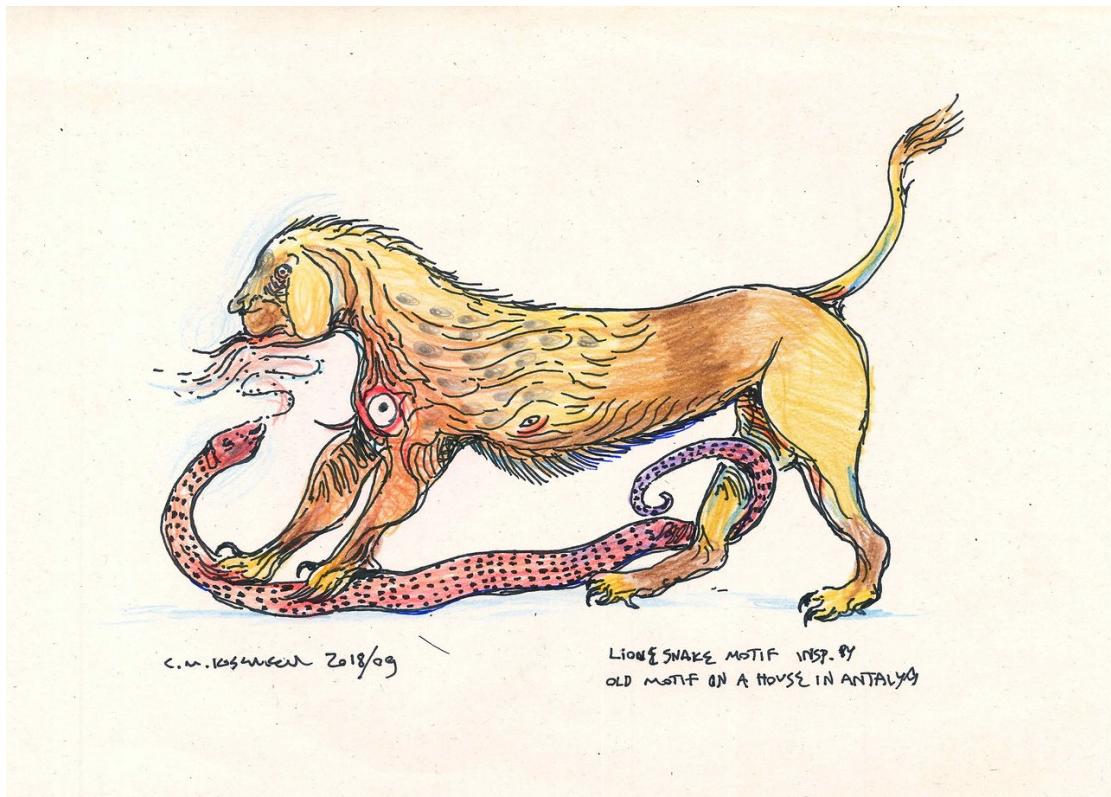


Sketches of surreal creatures on a pink sheet of paper.

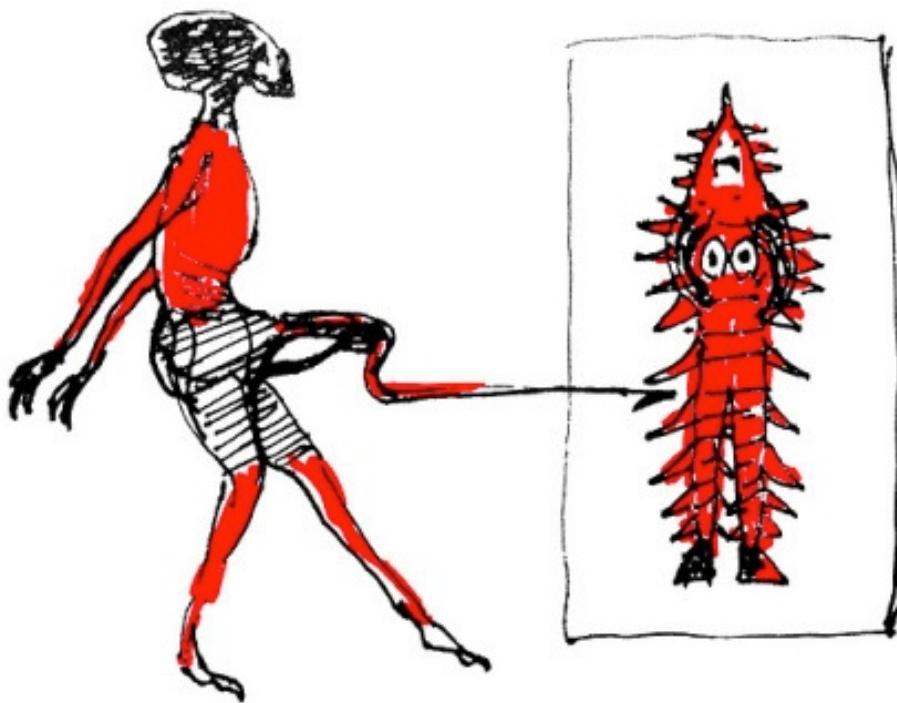


Sketches of a woodchuck-like parareptile, and a dinosaur-like creature, exercises in speculative evolution.

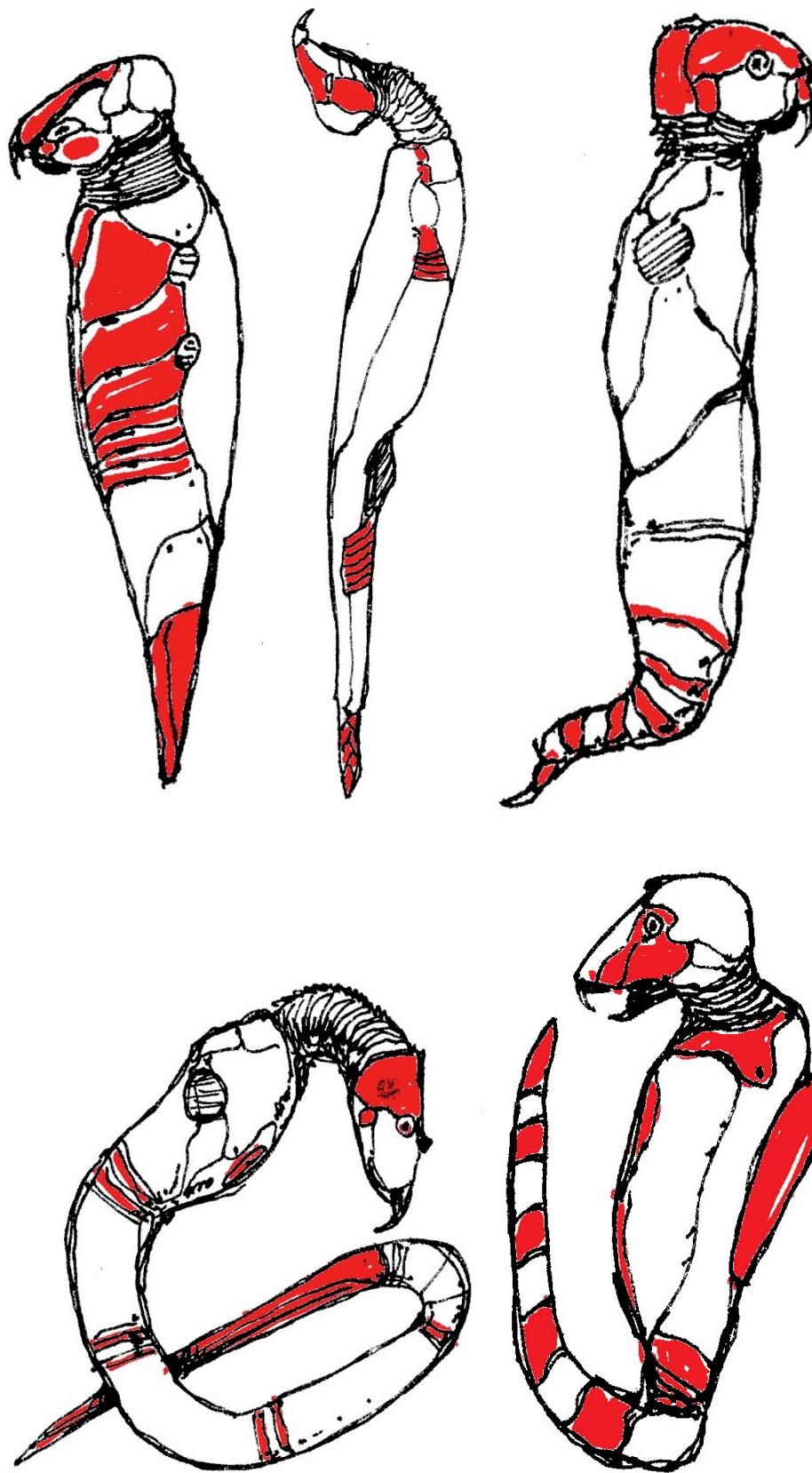
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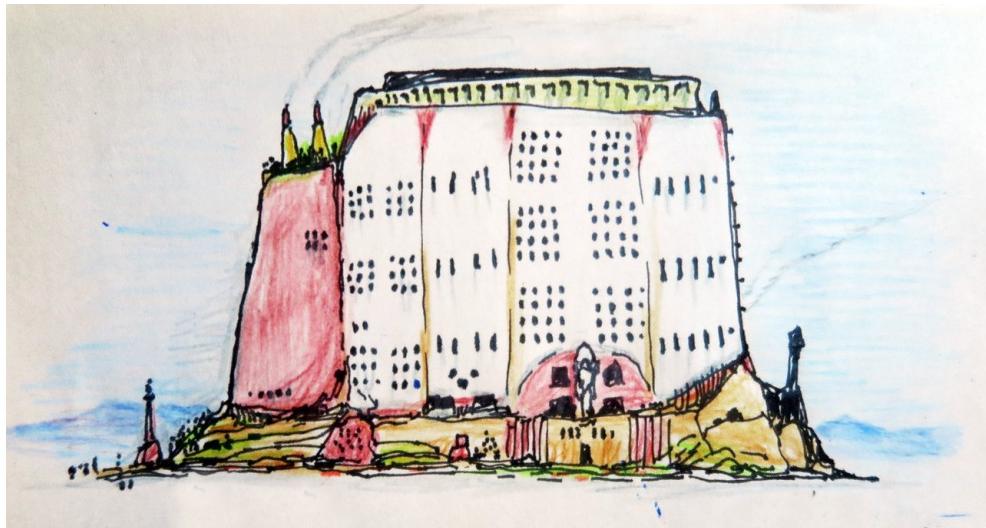
Fanciful sketch, of a lion-like creature fighting a snake-like creature, inspired by an old mural I saw on a century-old house from Antalya, Turkey.



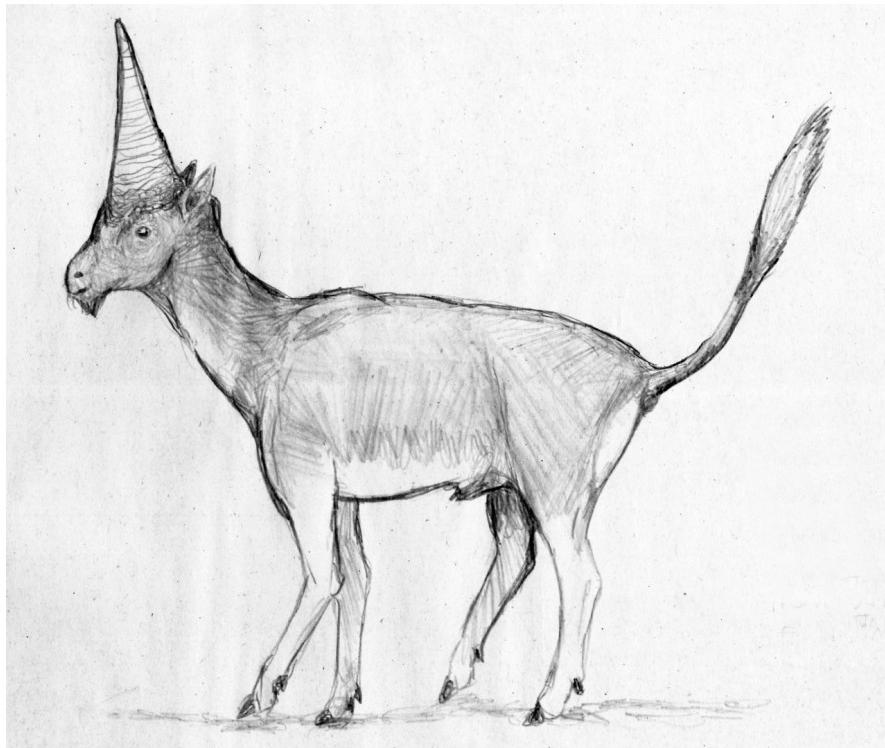
Symbolic picture of male and female spirits.



Sketches of fanciful "robot larvae"; mixtures of humans, insects and machines.



Sketch of a large, palace-like building.



Pencil sketch of a *Groath*, a goat-like mountain animal, from *After Man*, Dougal Dixon's speculative-evolution masterpiece.

ALTERNATE LIFE:  
From the Online Sketchbooks of C. M. Kosemen

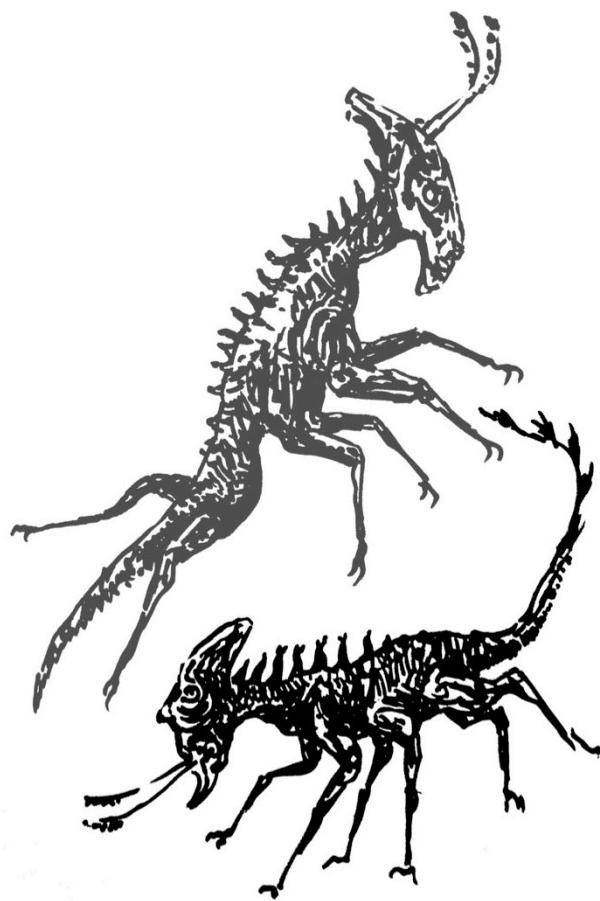
C. M. Kosemen  
Artist and Researcher  
*c.m.kosemen@gmail.com*

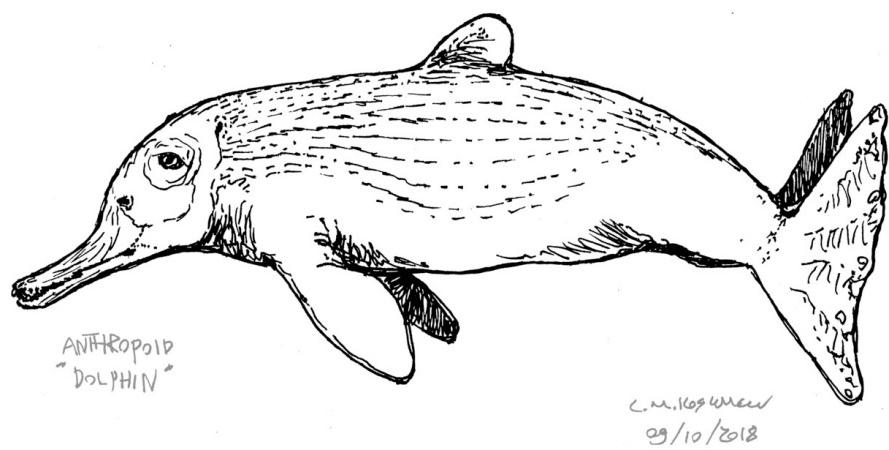
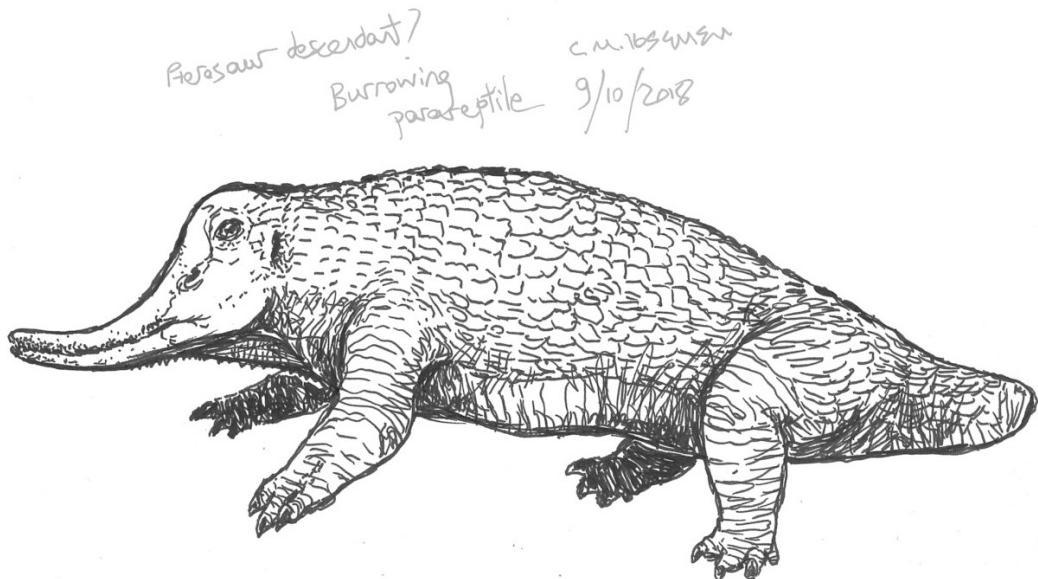


Design for a personal letterhead.



I found a horse-like snout-moth (*Pyralidae* sp.?), dead by my window-sill. I sketched it, and in my mind it turned into Satan's War Horse. Below, two humanoid insects.





Two exercises in speculative evolution. Above, some sort of burrowing reptile.

Below, a dolphin-like creature descended from seal-like future humans. Bottom, sketch of a large beast shambling about in a wheat field.





Sketches of three aviod creatures from parallel universes.

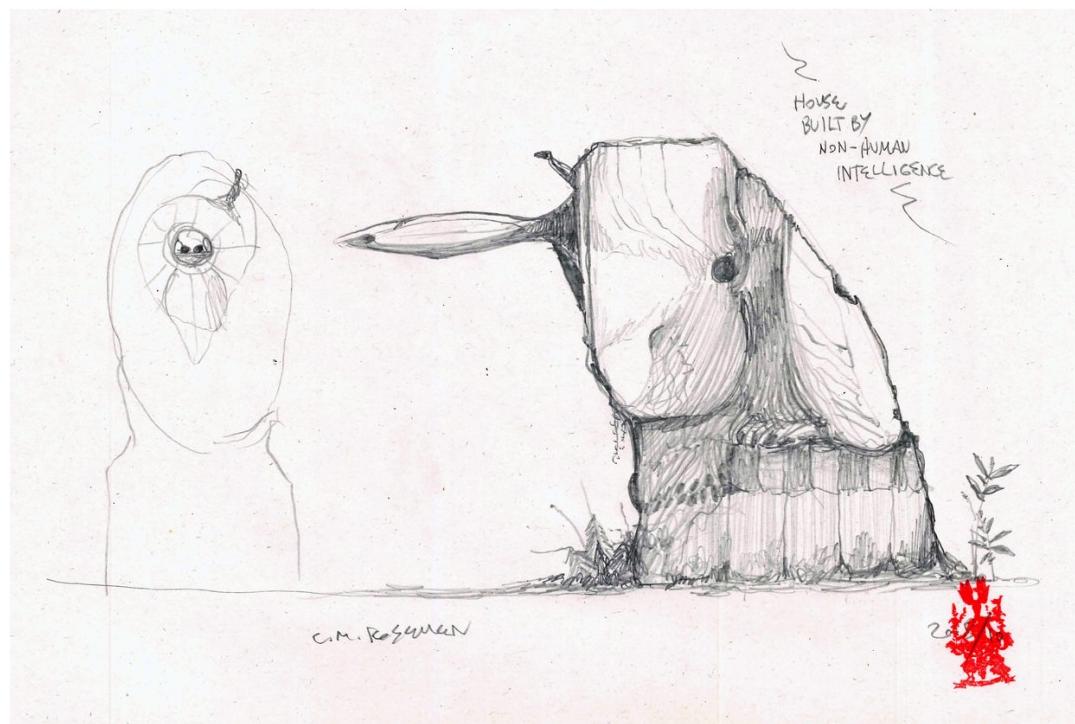
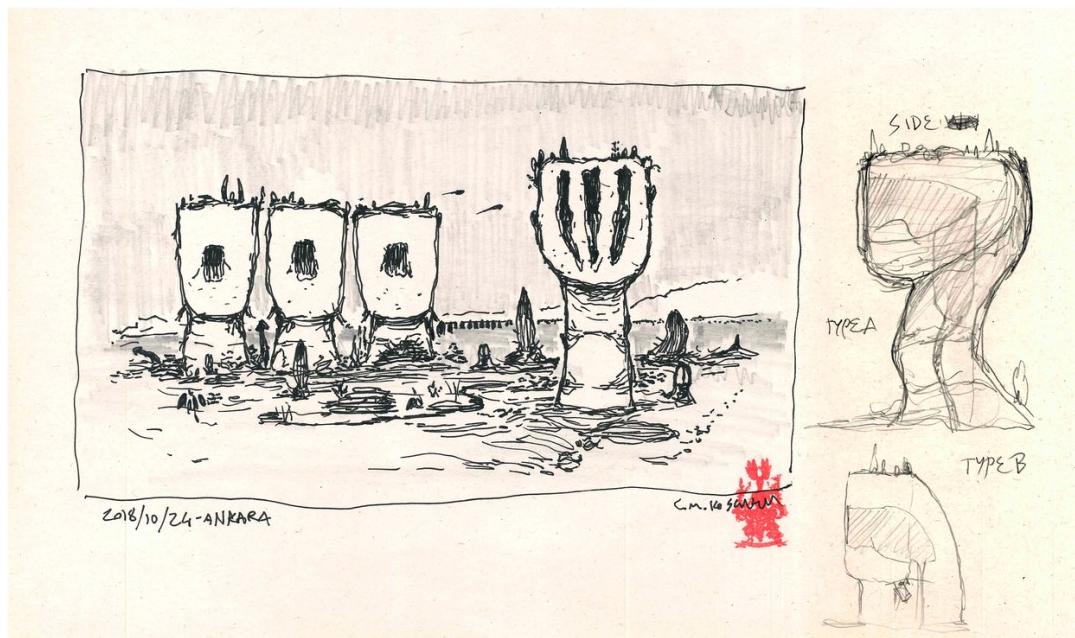


Left, sketch of a plucked, bird-like creature.

Below, “men who feed on the wind” were mentioned in one edition of Herodotus’ *Histories*.

I tried to sketch out the concept realistically; as a specialised race of people with branching, fern-like tongues. They live by eating swarms of midge-like insects that blow through their mountain-canyon homes.





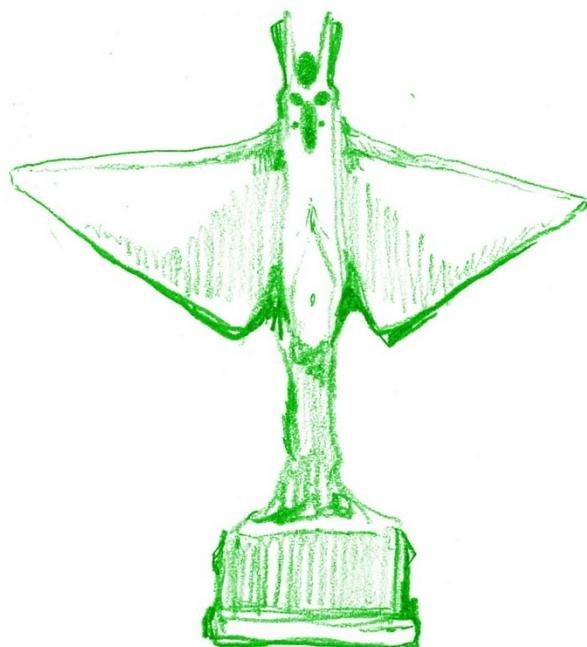
Sketches from a dream, a series of organic-looking “houses” built on an alien plain. They were made out of a clay-like substance, and things like giant swallow birds with claws instead of wings sat crouching in each one.



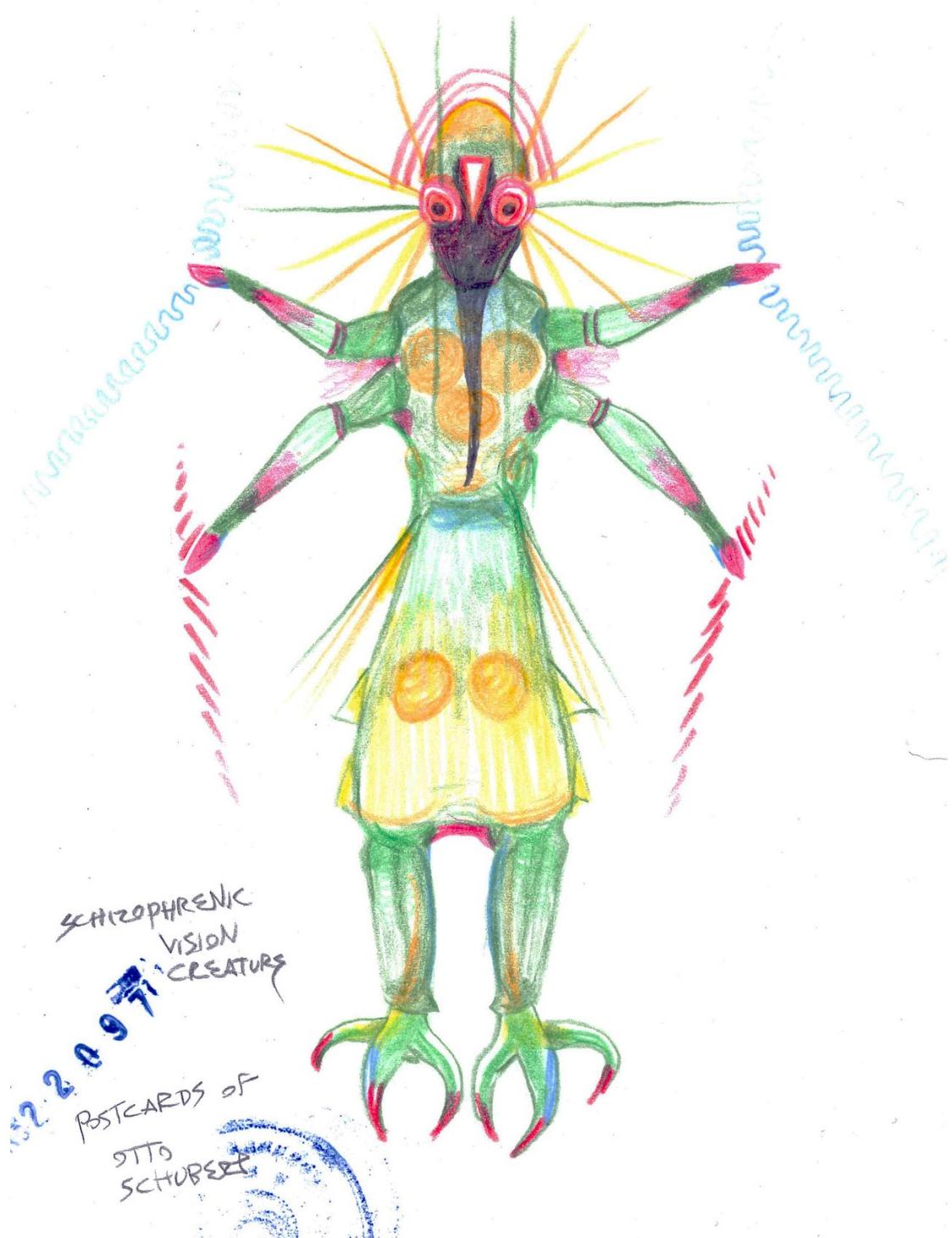
The slightly off depictions of animals on found on ancient relics make great material for speculative evolution projects. Here is a “whippet bird” derived from a bronze-age fragment displayed at the Eskişehir Archaeology Museum in Turkey.



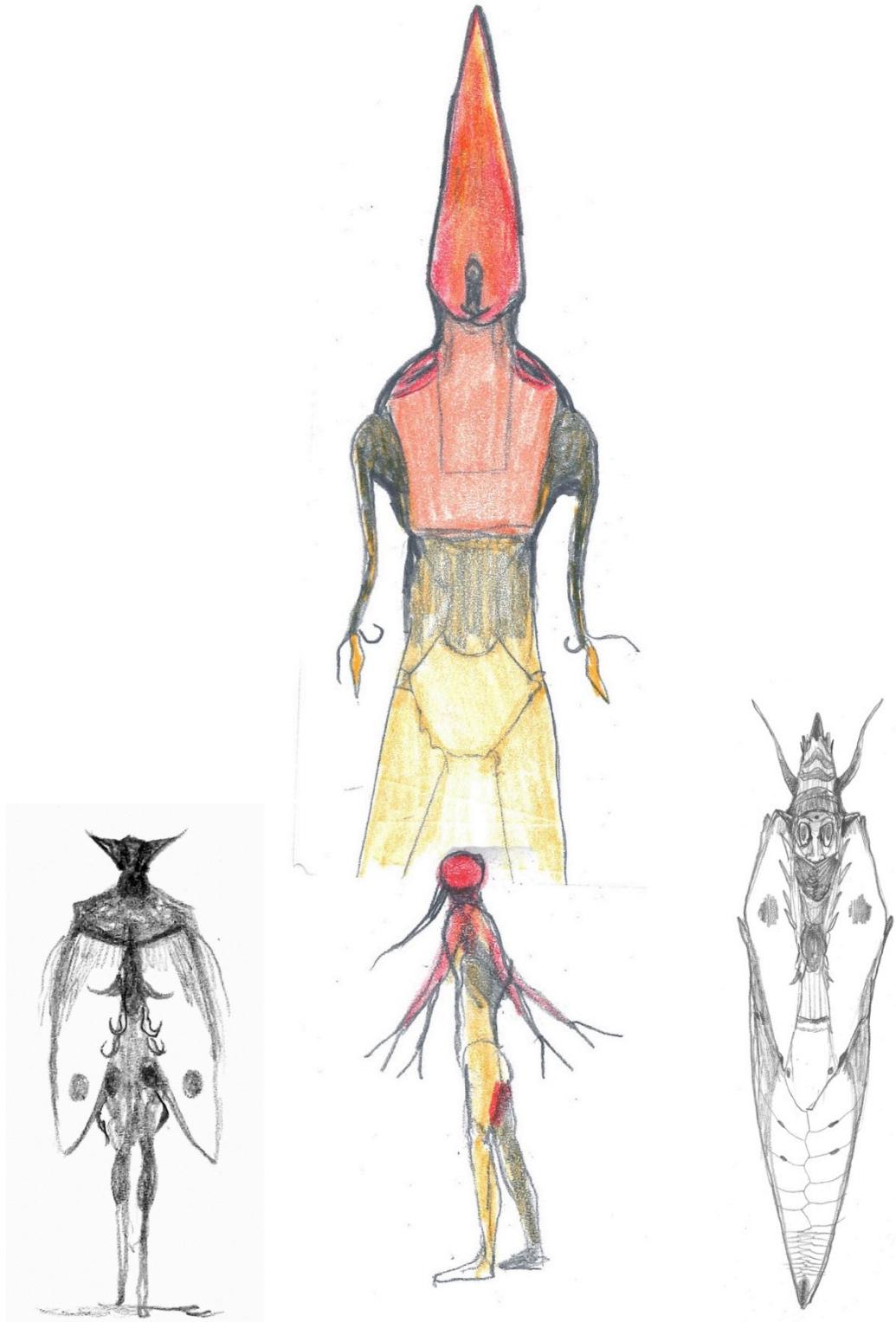
Sketch of an eagle, falsely reconstructed by future palaeontologists (who don't know what birds look like) with a covering of muscular "lips" over its beak; scythe-like arms and no feathers.



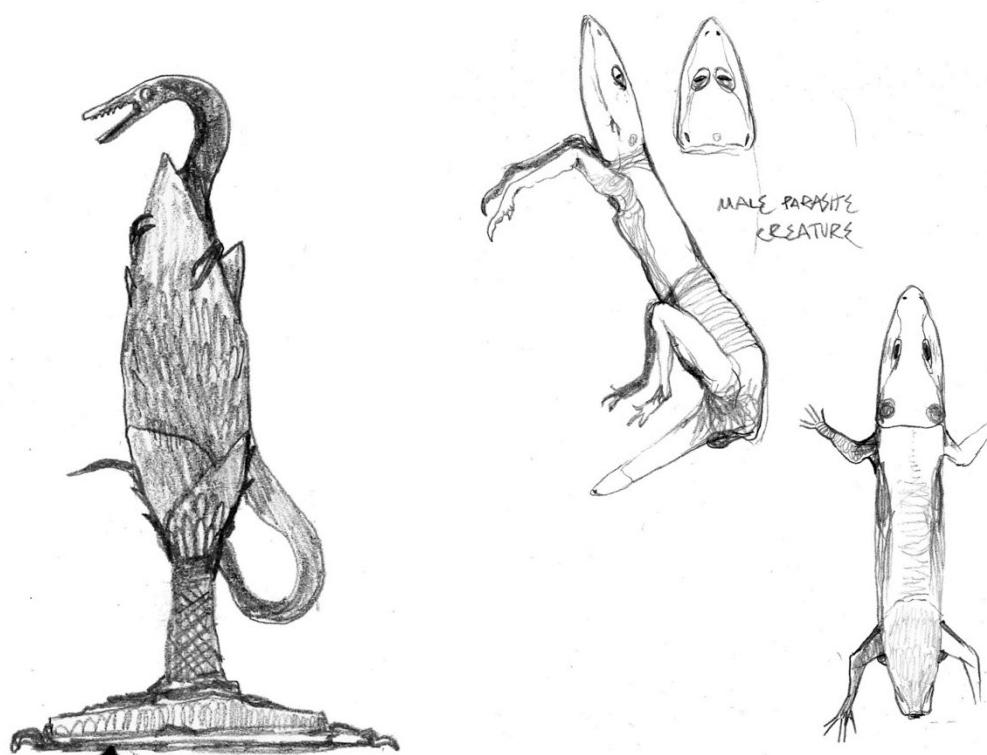
Sketch of a winged totem carved out of green crystal.



Working with colour pencils imbues all your drawings with a schizophrenic intensity.



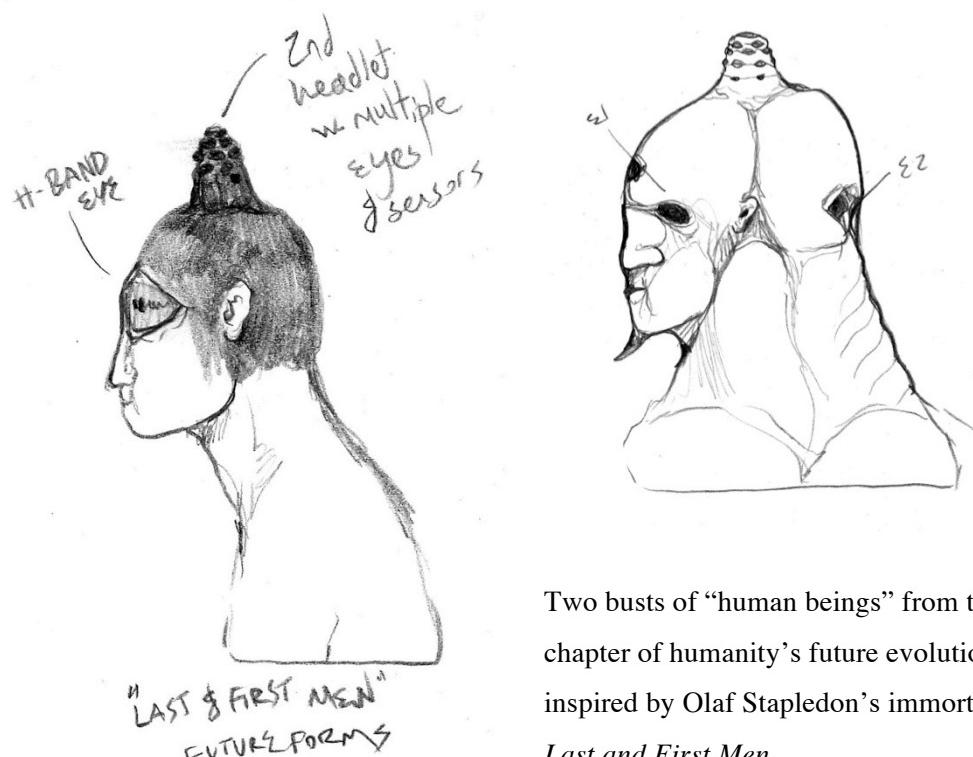
Sketches of a butterfly-like demon, a cone-headed nanotech robot, and a humanoid chrysalis.



Left, sketch of a long-headed lizard atop a decorative chalice.

Right, sketches of parasitic gecko-like creatures with oversized genitals.

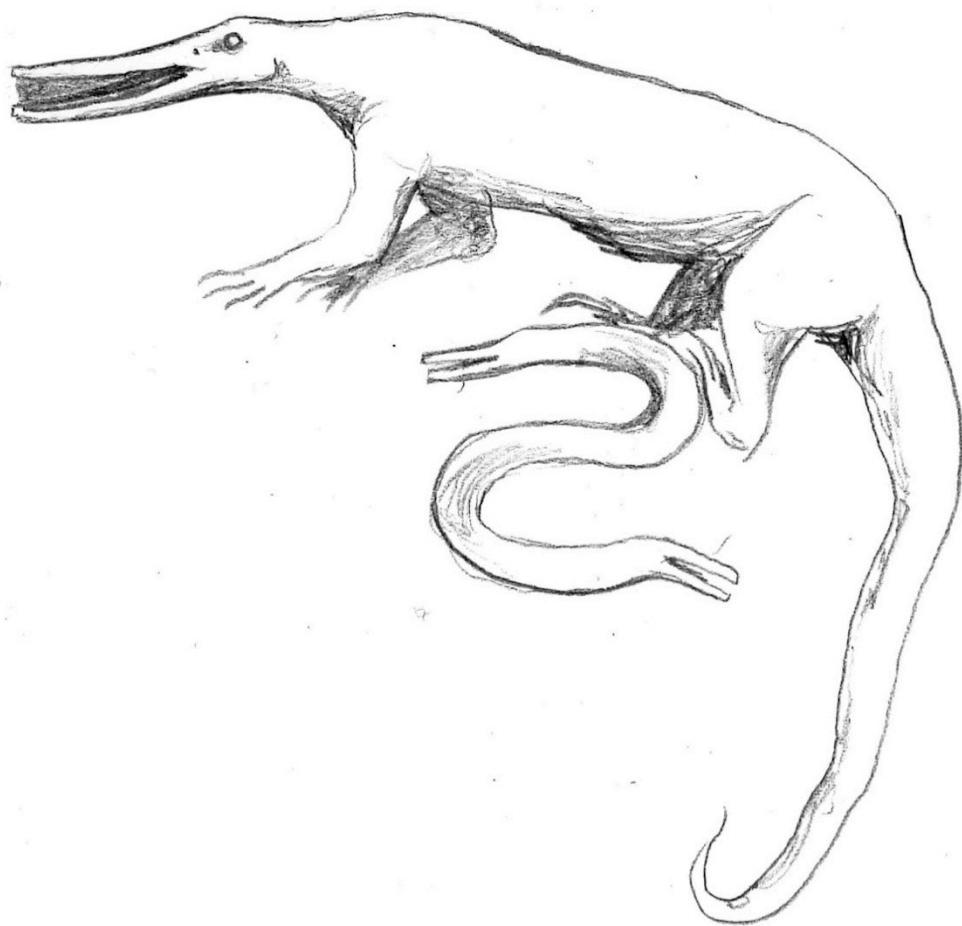
Both are exercises in speculative evolution.



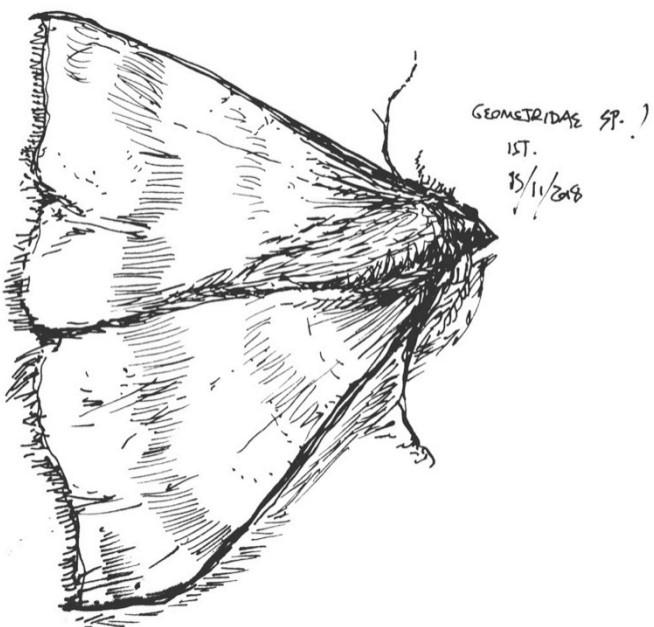
Two busts of "human beings" from the last chapter of humanity's future evolution;  
inspired by Olaf Stapledon's immortal work,  
*Last and First Men*.



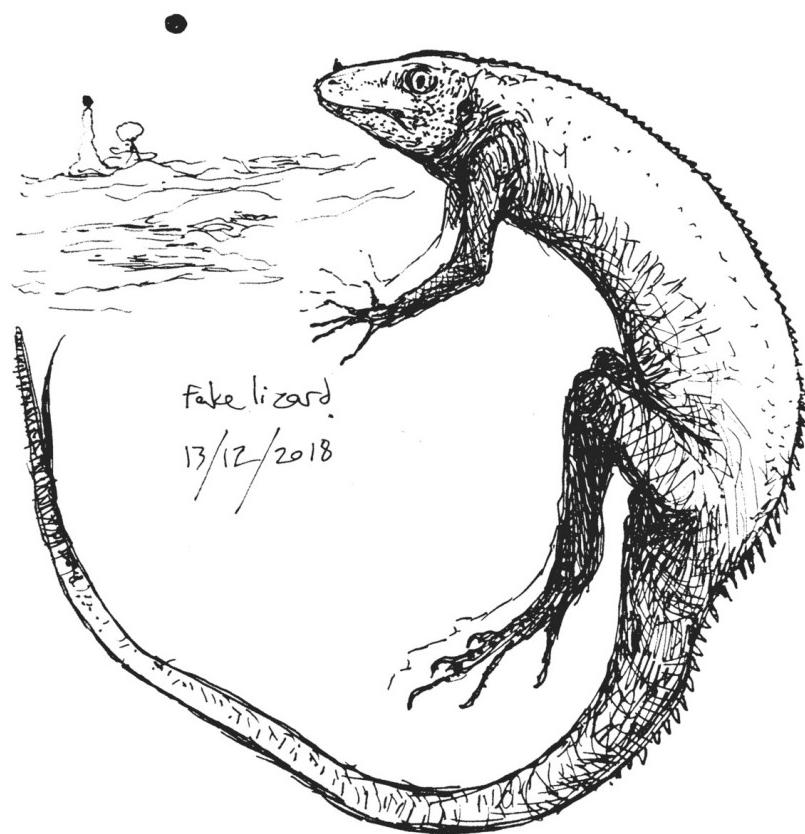
Sketch of a gigantic winged statue, inspired by Antony Gormley's *Angel of the North*.



Frivolous sketches of snake-and-crocodile-like creatures.



Life-drawn ink sketch of a snout moth, family *Pyralidae*  
- not *Geometridae* as the annotation falsely states.



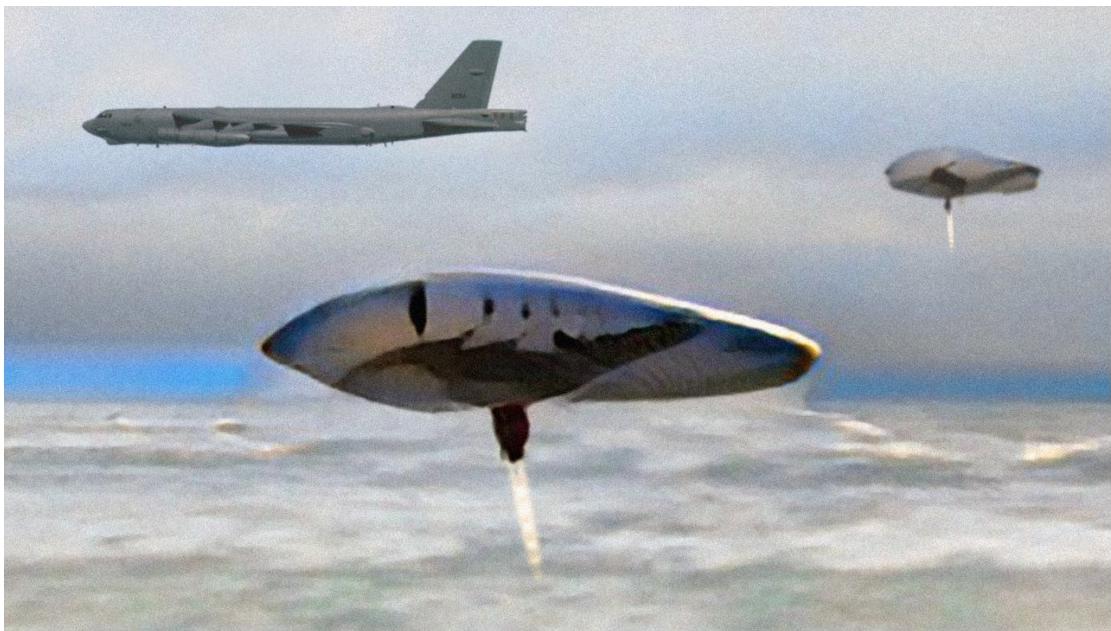
Sketch of a lizard, drawn without using references and a bit uncanny as a result.

ALTERNATE LIFE:  
From the Online Sketchbooks of C. M. Kosemen

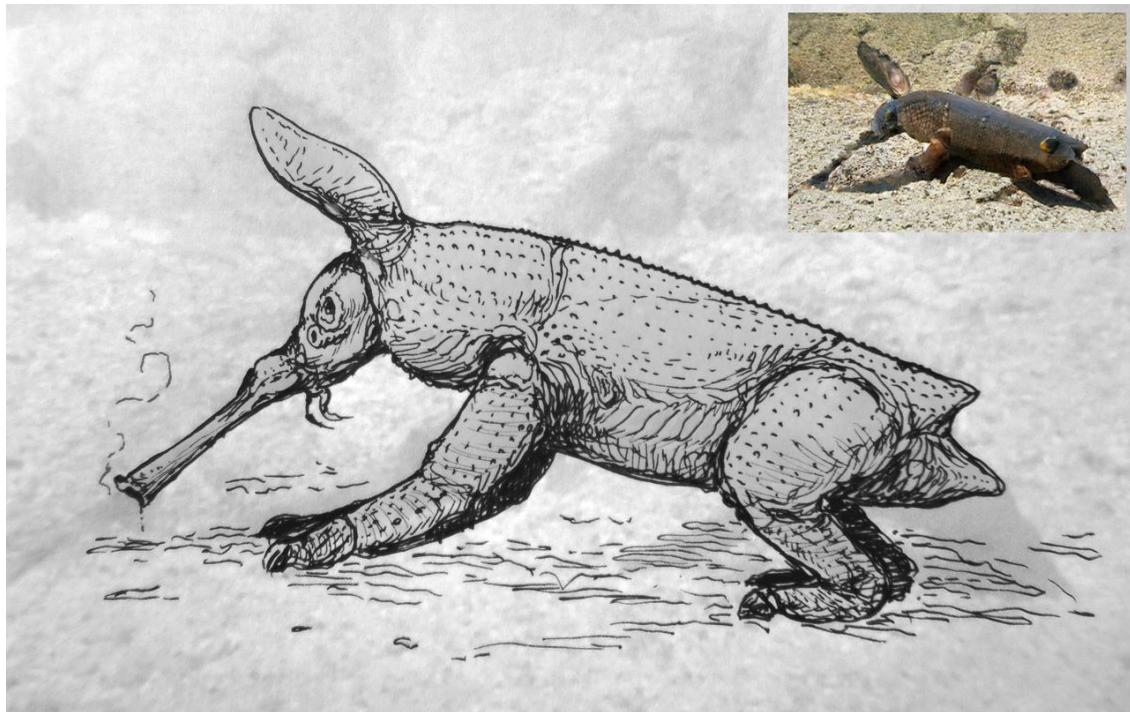


Views of my old sketches, bound together as books.

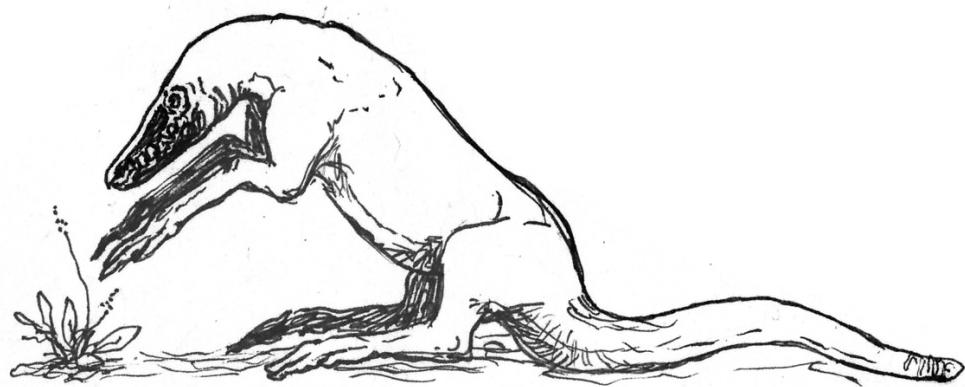




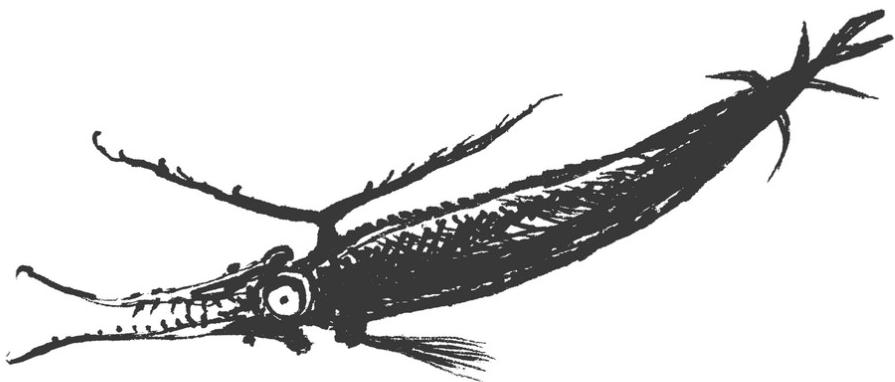
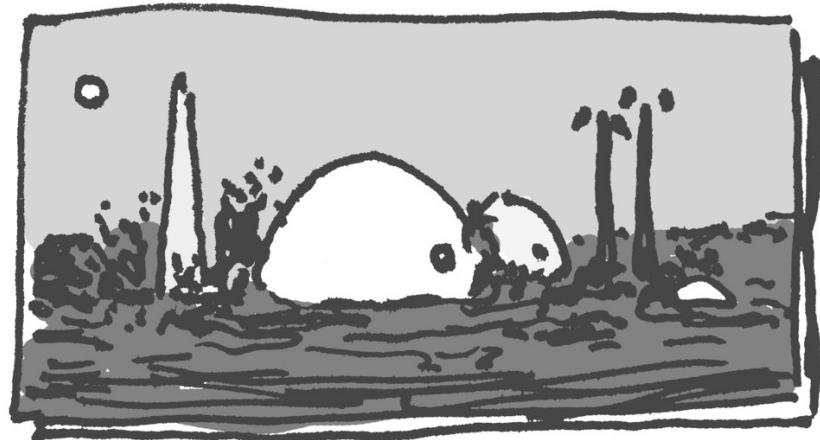
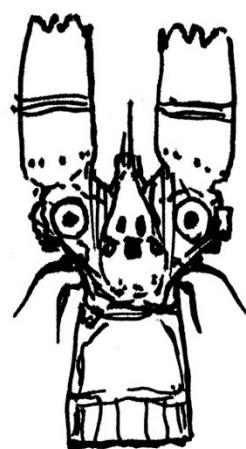
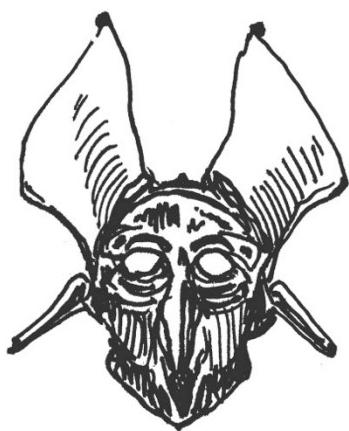




The art and design implications engendered by A.I. powered programs such as *Ganbreeder* are difficult to overstate. In minutes, using forms generated in *Ganbreeder*, I was able to whip up the images shown above and the previous spreads.



Sketch of a dog-like “reptilioid”.



ALTERNATE LIFE:  
From the Online Sketchbooks of C. M. Kosemen



C. M. Kosemen is an artist and independent researcher born in Ankara, Turkey. He studied at *Cornell University*, Istanbul's *Sabancı University* and holds a Masters' degree from London's *Goldsmiths College* in Documentary Film and Media Studies.

Kosemen's areas of interest include surreal art, Mediterranean history, palaeontology, evolution, zoology and visual culture.

As an artist, Kosemen is affiliated with the *Empire Project* Gallery of Istanbul. His art has been displayed in exhibits in Catania, Vienna, Ulcinj, Istanbul, Ankara, London and Tel Aviv.

As a researcher, Kosemen's book credits include *Osman Hasan and the Tombstone Photographs of the Dönmes*, from Libra Books of Istanbul. Copies of this book have been purchased by leading universities and research institutes of the world. It has won the *Eduard-Duckesz History Prize*.

Kosemen's other book credits include *All Yesterdays: Unique and Speculative Views of Dinosaurs and Other Prehistoric Animals*, and the *Cryptozoologion, the Biology, Evolution and Mythology of Hidden Animals* from Irregular Books of London.

Kosemen was also an editor for Benetton's *Colors* magazine and worked in various advertising agencies.